HARPER IS NEWSMAKER OF THE YEAR, PG 6

pg 20

Last-minute ideas for those on vour



entire store 30-80% OFF

Balloon boy's parents given 110 days in jail

COLORADO The parents who pulled the balloon boy hoax in hopes of landing a reality TV show were sentenced to jail Wednesday — 90 days for him, 20 days for her — and barred from profiting from the

hoax for four years. Choking back tears, Richard Heene apologized in court for the frenzy he caused when he claimed his six-vear-old son Falcon had floated away in a giant helium balloon shaped like a flying saucer.

"I'm very, very sorry. And I want to apologize to all the rescue workers out there, and the people that got involved in the community," said the 48year-old Heene.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News on the Maye

What's this barcode for?





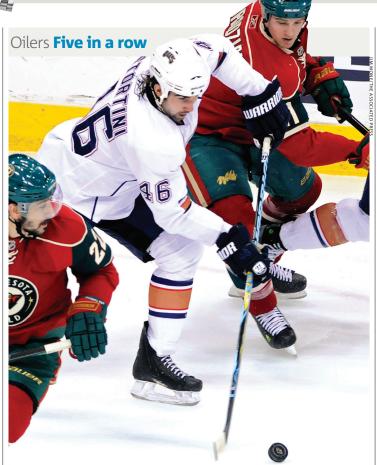


Look for our special **Boxing Day issue**

Saturday. We will resume publishing Jan. 4, 2010.

On the web

Visit metronews.ca for news updates



Edmonton Oilers' Zack Stortini races Minnesota Wild's Kyle Brodziak, right, and Cal Clutterbuck, left, to the puck in the first period of their hockey game Wednesday in St. Paul, Minn. The Oiler's lost 3-1, their fifth loss in a row. More coverage, page 18

Province emptying

Decline in jobs, energy prices shrinking population: StatsCan

Saddled with dwindling employment and shrinking energy prices, Alberta seems to be losing its status as the promised land for job-seekers from across Canada.

For more than a decade the province's resourcerich economy has drawn in hundreds of thousands of people from Saskatchewan, Newfoundland and Labrador and

elsewhere. But Statistics Canada's third-quarter population estimate for 2009 shows more people left Alberta than moved in. That's the first time that has happened since 1994.

Douglas Porter, deputy chief economist with the Bank of Montreal, says the province was pulling in almost 50,000 people a year from other provinces at the height of the energy boom. "It is an amazing turnaround from as recently as three years ago when,

on average, we were seeing about 12,000 or 13,000 net new migrants (per quarter) into Alberta from the rest of the country," he said Wednesday.

The culprit is probably a rising unemployment rate that's the result of falling energy prices, Porter said. For example, Saskatchewan's unemployment rate was consistently higher than Alberta's several years ago but is now two percentage points lower.

"The relative attractiveness of Alberta has at least temporarily waned."

Porter said it's unlikely the trend will continue for too long because the energy sector has seen some recent gains that will probably lead to a revival of jobs.

Alberta's unemployment has shown recent signs of recovery. The province's employment rose by 13,000 in November, the biggest gain in more than a year. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Group of youngsters aged 12 to 19 charged in cab theft

ANDREAS MORSE for Metro Edmontor

For the second time in less than a month a cab driver has had his vehicle stolen.

At about 1 a.m. Wednesday a group of five males, one as young as 12, got out of a truck and approached a cab parked near 75 Street and 90 Avenue.

When the cab driver opened his door to speak to the group they allegedly demanded cash.

The driver ran away from the vehicle and noticed that the five males got in the cab and drove Police spotted the stolen cab and followed it until Air-1 took over. A spike belt was deployed near 40 Street on the Yellowhead Trail, sending the vehicle off the road and into a light standard.

Four of the five suspects fled the scene but were arrested shortly after. The fifth male remained in the car with a leg injury and was taken to hospital for treatment.

"Sometimes, especially in the cold weather, people take chances and leave their vehicle running and unlocked and they come back and see that their vehicle is gone," said police

spokesperson Karen Carlson

"In many of those cases it's a crime of opportuni-

Further investigation revealed that the truck the group was driving was stolen as well. Five males aged 12, 15, 16, 17 and 19 face several charges.

NO "B.S." BOXING WEEK EVENT ENTIRE STORE 30-80% OFF

JUST MENSWEAR FASHION BRANDS FOR BIG SAVINGS

PLUS SCRATCH & SAVE UP TO AN EXTRA 80% OFF SALE ITEMS

PHONE: 780.433.6614 8111-102 STREET WWW.DERKS.C2









Plans from per month³

- > Talk & Text
- No System Access Fees

BlackBerry® Pearl™ smartphone

With 3-year Fido Agreement and Data add-on

Per-second billing

Limited time only! Activation Fee is on us. Save \$35°

NOW \$

Start saving now! Shop fido.ca Drop by a store or call 1-866-301-3436

Offers subject to change without notice. 1. Offer available until January 4, 2010. 2. Offer available from December 10, 2009 to December 31, 2009. Valid on new activations with a 2- or 3-year Fido Agreement. A credit for the entire amount of the \$35 Activation Fee will appear on your first invoice. 3. A one-time Activation Fee of \$35 per line applies. Additional airtime, long-distance, roaming, data, add-ons, provincial 9-1-1 fees (if applicable) and taxes are extra and billed monthly. Each plan includes a number of text messages sent from Canada to a Canadian wireless number; text messages received from another mobile phone are free. Charges apply for premium text messages (alerts, messages related to content, contests and promotions). Device price shown valid with new activation on a Fido Agreement, early cancellation fees apply. "Fido & design, *Giving low prices a good home* and FidoDollars are trademarks of Fido Solutions Inc. BlackBerry", RIM", Research In Motion", SureType", SurePress" and related trademarks, names and logos are the property of Research In Motion Limited and are registered and/or used in the U.S. and countries around the world. Used under license from Research In Motion Limited. All other brand names and logos are trademarks of their respective owners. © 2009 Fido Solutions Inc.

FIDO STORES

Kingsway Mall
Londonderry Mall
Sherwood Park Mall
Southgate Centre
St. Albert's Centre, St. Albert

EXCLUSIVE DEALERS

AFFORDABLE WIRELESS Northgate Centre West Edmonton Mall GENERATION WIRELESS City Centre Bonnie Doon Shopping Centre UNIPAGE Mill Woods Town Centre West Edmonton Mall Londonderry Mall











News on the Meye

DOWNLOAD THE FREE SCANLIFE APPLICATION WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE AT 2DSCAN.COM



THE CODES WILL DIRECT YOUR MOBILE BROWSER TO RELEVANT CONTENT AT M.METRONEWS.CA



Loca



Firm to deliver transit info with new app

Gone are the days of waiting in the freezing cold for a bus that might never arrive. At least that's what one local company, Fusedlogic, is hoping will happen once its new iPhone application is soon released. Route411 is designed to deliver transit information to the end user on their iPhone. Rather than being built for a specific city, Route411 is structured in a way to be used across any city that has released the Google-specification of transit data.

METRO INTERNATIONAL **NEWSPAPER** OF THE YEAR

Edmonton tweets

@EdmontonHumane

56

Major adoption

incentives at

EHS

Boxing

Day & New Year's, Cat

adoption fees

in half and more!

Lovely. #yea #ablea **@andraealynne**

(Non-dollar-store)

http://bit.ly/7tn0ol #yeg

@ Paulatics Last night

toured Candy Cane Lane,

dropped donations for the

food bank, then hit the Leg

for bright lights & hot cocoa.

where's the least expensive

place in town for groceries?

metr@news.ca

What's online today

Tsunami aftermath 'surreal' 2 boys charged with murder

Red Cross director spent 7 months in Sri Lanka after '04 disaster in Lac La Biche

ANDREAS MORSE for Metro Edmontor

It's been five years since the Asian tsunami devastated the Indian Ocean coastline and Steve Armstrong still remembers what he witnessed like it happened yesterday. It was Dec. 26, 2004,

when a massive tsunami hit Southeast Asia, killing 225,000 people and destroying millions of other lives in the process.

Armstrong, then a delegate of the Canadian Red Cross, flew to Sri Lanka a few months after the tragedy and helped start the emergency disaster relief process.

"It was very strange, kind of surreal," said the provincial director of the Red Cross. "Normal life was happening a couple hundred metres from disaster and that was quite remarkable to see."

Armstrong spent seven months in Sri Lanka build-ing more than 6,500 homes, repairing hospitals and community centres, restoring lost livelihoods and helping



Steve Armstrong, provincial director of the Red Cross, recalls aiding Sri Lanka after the 2004 tsunami.

train thousands of disaster response volunteers.

Even though the disaster was far away, Albertans raised more than \$21 million and the provincial government pitched in another \$5 million for the relief efforts.

"It was a significant component of the national fundraising efforts," Armstrong said. "In Canada we raised somewhere around

\$360 million, which was the largest per capita campaign in the world

Between 95 and 97 per cent of that money has been spent and the remaining money is going towards programming to help the new communities get back on their feet.

Armstrong said Albertans can still help by donating to the Red Cross or any other charitable group.

"There's need here and there's need in lots of other places," he said.

We would ask the people to take a look around and see what's of interest and contact us or any othreputable organization.

Albertans interested in learning more about the Red Cross and how to contribute can visit www.red-

with murder

DEATH Two 14-year-old boys have been charged with second-degree murder in the death of a 36-year-old man in northern Alberta.

RCMP say Hector Cardinal of Lac La Biche died of blunt force trauma stemming from an alleged altercation in the community Monday.

One of the young suspects was arrested Tuesday evening and will appear in a Lac La Biche courtroom Jan. 4.

A warrant has been issued for the arrest of the second teen.

A second altercation in the community the same day left another area man in an Edmonton hospital with life-threatening injuries. RCMP say they have not yet been able to make any direct links between the incidents.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

m.metrenews.ca



Scan this barcode for more Local

Video Canadian soldiers in Afghanistan gather for a Christmas dinner far from home at

metronews.ca/canada Video The Canadian Press names Stephen Harper its Newsmaker of the Year



Lotto 6/49: 1, 5, 9, 11, 22 & 38. Bonus 27

ADVERTISE TODAY! 1 888 91 metro (63876)

Interest in the H1N1 vaccine remains steady and AHS is committed to providing vaccine to all Albertans who want it.

Mass vaccination clinics will resume Monday, Jan. 4, 2010, from 1-8 p.m. with the following schedule: MONDAYS AND TUESDAYS

Jan. 4 & 5; 11 & 12;

18 & 19 from 1-8 p.m. at Millbourne Mall (38 Ave. & Millwoods Road) WEDNESDAYS AND THURSDAYS Jan. 6 & 7; 13 & 14; 20 & 21 from 1-8 p.m. at East Edmonton Health Centre (7910-112 Ave.) SATURDAY, IAN, 9 Millbourne Mall, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

SATURDAY, JAN. 23 East

Edmonton Health Centre, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

H1N1 vaccine available at mass clinics, health centres

As of January, H1N1 immunization is available by appointment only at the following health centres:

- Devon Public Health Centre (780-342-7069)
- Evansburg & District Health Unit (780-727-2288)
- Fort Saskatchewan Health Unit (780-342-2366) Gibbons Health Unit
- (780-923-3700) Leduc Public Health
- Centre (780-980-4644) Morinville Health Unit (780-939-3388)
- Spruce Grove & Stony Plain at WestView Public Health Centre

(780-968-3700)

- St. Albert Public Health Centre (780-459-6671)
- Strathcona County Public Health Centre (780-342-4600)

Please bring a piece of identification and your health card, and wear short sleeves if possible.

HURRY OFFER ENDS

TODAY AT 10PM!

METRO EDMONTON

GET STARTED EARLY ON YOUR NEW YEARS RESOLUTION

START TODAY



NO FIXED TERM ON MONTH TO MONTH **MEMBERSHIPS**

CANCEL AT ANY TIME

RECEIVE A 3 MONTH GIFT CERTIFICATE TO GIVE TO A LOVED ONE.

Voted Edmonton's #1 Fitness Club





Call 310-2121 or visit www.clubfit.ca

NORTHEAST 13746 50 St.

NORTHWEST 13543 St. Albert Tr. DOWNTOWN

SOUTH 3414 Gateway Blvd.

473-5800

10303 Jasper Ave. 426-1389

10403 172 St.

1

Judge tells plaintiff to disclose Facebook usage

A New Brunswick judge has ordered a Miramichi, N.B., woman — who said she hasn't been able to return to work full-time — to reveal how often she uses Facebook to a man she's suing after a 2004 car crash, CBC News Online reported. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Canada



Avalanche survivor one year later

Jeff Adams, left, barely survived being buried beneath waves of snow last December in a thundering series of avalanches that ripped him from his snowmobile and entombed eight of his closest friends. A year later, what haunts him most is the questions he'll one day face from their children. "The biggest thing is those kids ... will never know their dads except for from pictures and stories from friends," said the 30-year-old.

Weather key to Games

Organizers preparing for unpredictable Mother Nature

VANCOUVER 2010 **Games**

VANCOUVER Olympic organizers want a fairy-tale experience for the 2010 Winter Games, so the weather they need is what Goldilocks wanted from the three bears' porridge.

It can't be too hot, it can't be too cold. It needs to be just right.

"The weather for us has always been one of our major concerns in sport. It obviously affects our field of play, and so anything that affects that is always a concern," said Tim Gayda, vice-president of sports for the Vancouver Olympic organizing committee, in a recent interview.

"We took the weather

into consideration way back even in the bid phase, about how we go about planning where the venues are (and) how we schedule the competitions, so the weather is pretty much at the forefront of our minds from years ago.

Too much huffing and puffing from Mother Nature in 2010 could blow the entire Olympic system down.

Adverse weather that forces the delay of an event impacts staff, volunteers, spectators, security, transportation and, of course, the athletes.

It could also put a damper on the vision of Vancouver that officials need to help lure tourists back after the Games.

While red mittens might

Delays

• Only a few Winter Olympics have been pulled off with no weather delays at all, the most recent being the Lillehammer Games in 1994.

be the appropriate souvenir up in the crisp, snow-capped mountains of Whistler, B.C., the more practical souvenir for Vancouver itself might be the official Olympic umbrella.

On the dates the Games are being held, there's been an average of eight days with no precipitation at all over the last six

"The rain has never stopped Vancouver from doing anything, so if we can't play in the rain, we can't do anything, so we learned to adjust to it and work with it," said Paul Welsh, general manager of Edelman Vancouver, a communications firm handling marketing for several Olympic-related events and sponsors.

"It could be a shocker if you're not from around here."

There are dozens of outdoor events planned around the Games and planners have been mindful that rain could ruin the fun.

Wary that rain could transform one of the city's sites into a mud hole, Vancouver officials found flooring made from old tires to cover an entire park.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Nova Scotia Surfing in December



A surfer rides a stand up paddle board on waves at Cow Bay, N.S., near Halifax on Wednesday. The Nova Scotia coast attracts a hardcore group of surfers year round.

News in brief MACHETE A Quebec man who

MACHETE A Quebec man who approached a provincial police officer with a machete is in hospital after the officer shot him in the shoulder. The shooting occurred in St. Lin, Que., a community in the Laurentians about 30 kilometres north of Montreal. THE CANADIAN PRESS

m.metrenews.ca



Scan this barcode for more Canada news on your smartphone. Learn how to scan the barcode with the instructions at the top of pg 3 TROOPS Canada is heading into what is supposed to be its last full year of combat in Kandahar, just as the U.S. pours thousands more troops into the embattled province in what experts believe will be the ultimate showdown with the Taliban.

The increased fighting is expected to unfold against a backdrop of a widening political controversy in Ottawa over the alleged torture of Afghan prisoners early in the war, what the Conservative government knew about it, and what it

6,000 There are 6,000

Canadian, U.S. and Afghan combat troops in Kandahar province and a Washington-based think-tank estimated last fall as many as 15,800 more would be needed to stem the insurgent tide.

did to stop it.

There is no denying 2010 will be the watershed year in the eight-year-old Afghan conflict.

NATO's top commander and architect of the reboot-

ed war strategy said recently it will be the end of 2010 before the allies know if they are winning or losing.

The Conservative gov-

rnment and war-weary Canadians will have a choice to make whether they like it or not: Stick to the country's self-imposed 2011 withdrawal date and perhaps risk alienating the Obama administration; continue with the reconstituted war effort; or find some other way to remain meaningfully involved.

THE CANADIAN PR

White Christmas likely for most of Canada

WEATHER Most of Canada will see a white Christmas.

But Environment Canada's senior climatologist David Phillips adds about one-quarter of Canadians will see a green Christmas.

He says areas that won't have at least two centimetres of snow on the ground Christmas morning are Vancouver Island, southern B.C., southern Ontario areas including Windsor, Niagara, London, Kitchener, Hamilton, Toronto and along the north shore of Lake Erie, as well as St. John's N.I.

Phillips says Nova Scotia

and Prince Edward Island may be getting some snow Wednesday and Thursday but also some rain, so it's a question of whether they get that 2 centimetres or not — although he thinks they won't have a white Christmas.

He says northern and central B.C., all of the Prairies, northern and central and eastern Ontario, all of Quebec, New Brunswick, most of Newfoundland and Labrador, and all of Nunavut, the Northwest Territories and the Yukon will have a white Christmas.

metr⊕

Metro Edmonton, Editorial and Photography Interns, Edmonton AB

Metro Edmonton is inviting applications for reporting and photography internships.

The positions offer hands-on experience in a daily newsroom for journalists and photographers or recent grads who are beginning their careers. The positions are non-paid.

Successful applicants in the past have excelled at generating story ideas and writing concise and compelling features as well as covering breaking news. The ideal candidate can also combine photography and reporting skills.

Qualification

The positions are open to students and recent graduates (within the last year or two).

The internships are full-time and start January 2010. They run for three-four weeks, based on availability, Sundays to Thursdays.

No calls please. Only those applicants considered for the position will be contacted.

Please e-mail samples of your work, a cover letter and resume identifying all relevant experience and/or skills to:

Harry Hodge | Metro Edmonton, Ste, 2070, 10123-99 Street NW, Edmonton, AB, T5J 3H1 | Tel: NO CALLS E-mail: harry.hodge@metronews.ca | Web address: http://metronews.ca

ARE YOU WILDLY ENERGETIC, CREATIVE AND LOVE TO MEET NEW PEOPLE?

ME MAYAL AOAHI

WE NEED STREET PROMOTERS TO DISTRIBUTE
NEWSPAPERS TO MORNING COMMUTERS
Great Wage • Meet New People • No Experience Needed



If you are interested in joining the street promotions team, please email your resume to mhillman@thinkboxnational.com









TOM TOM ONE 140S GPS Text to Speech
3.5 inch Display







10.2 MEGA PIXEL 3x OPTICAL ZOOM DIGITAL CAMERA





SELECTED BOXED CHOCOLATES



SELECTED CHRISTMAS LIGHTS or DÉCOR

SELECTED LICENSED PRODUCTS

SELECTED 2010 WALL CALENDARS









Neutrogena Men



SELECTED FRAGRANCES

SELECTED FRAGRANCE SETS

THE COLOR WORKSHOP or QUO COSMETIC SET Selected Types SELECTED MEN'S HEALTH & BEAUTY

SELECTED WOMEN'S HEALTH & BEAUTY GIFT SETS













Purex



LIFE BRAND EXTRA STRONG PAPER TOWELS (8 Roll), TIDE TO GO MINI (3.5mL), REGULAR INSTANT STAIN REMOVER (10mL) or FEBREZE AIR EFFECTS AIR REFRESHER (275g)

2X ULTRA Concentrate Laundry Detergent (2.12L) or <u>Eabric So</u>ftener



NATURAL INSTINCTS NICE'N EASY ROOT TOUCH-UP, L'ORÉAL FÉRIA OF



2-PLY (132's) or 3-PLY (88's) FACIAL TISSUE Limit 4. After Limit 1.29





LIFE BRAND **CREST**





LUBRIDERM OLAY FACIAL CLEANSER or QUENCH PRODUCTS Selected Types

*Our Regular Price. **Discounts apply to our regular prices on all merchandise purchased by seniors and their accompanying family members with a valid Shoppers Optimum Card®. Excludes sale items, prescriptions, insulin, products with codeine, tobacco products (where applicable), prestige cosmetics and fragrances, newspapers, stamps, passport photos, lottery tickets, event tickets, Life Experiences®, transit tickets and passes, electronic gift cards, prepaid phone cards and milk in Atlantic provinces. Discounts may not exceed \$50. See cashier for details. ® 911979 Alberta Ltd. †While quantities last. Offer valid on the purchase total of eligible pr oducts after discounts and redemptions and before taxes. Excludes prescription purchases, products with codeine, tobacco products (where applicable), prestige cosmetics and fragrances, stamps, passport photos, lottery tickets, event tickets, transit tickets and passes, electronic gift cards. Life Experiences® packages, prepaid phone cards and Shoppers Home Health Care locations. Offer valid Thursday, December 31, 2009 only. Coupon will be accepted until January 21, 2010. See cashier for details. ® 911979 Alberta Ltd.



Hockey great Gordie Howe took a turn carrying the Olympic torch today in southwestern Ontario, in the community of Lasalle. Earlier, CFL legend Mike (Pinball) Clemons carried the Olympic flame through the village of North Buxton. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tippett guilty on all counts | Harper named

Dad of five convicted of kidnapping, sexually assaulting girl

was found guilty yesterday of kidnapping and sexually assaulting a 12-year-old Peterborough, Ont., girl.

Stanley Tippett, 33, was arrested Aug. 6, 2008 after the girl was found halfnaked behind a school in Courtice, some 70 kilometres from Peterborough.

Ontario Superior Court Justice Bruce Glass found Tippett guilty of all seven counts he was facing, including kidnapping, sexual assault and sexual inter-

Tippett had testified that he came across a group of young drunken girls in south-end Peterborough and that two of them, including the 12 year old, got into his van. He told the court that minutes after dropping off the older girl he was carjacked by two men at gunpoint and ditched in the country.

The Crown argued that

there was no truth in Tippett's testimony about the cariackers.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Tippett arrives at court in Peterborough, Ont., vesterday

top newsmaker

SURVEY Stephen Harper began the year facing cratersized political potholes at home, so he adopted a time-honoured coping mechanism of Canadian prime ministers: He hit the road internationally.

New York, China, India, South Korea — all were ports of call aimed at burnishing Harper's image at home as a trusted economic helmsman in a time of unprecedented financial uncertainty

The strategy, it seems, worked like a charm: Harper used a steep recession to his political advantage and emerged stronger than ever in his four years in office, a feat that has 2009 Newsmaker of the Year in the annual survey of news organizations by The Canadian Press.

"His personal forays onto the in-

ternationstage and his surprising positions on major issues such as climate



change are criticized, but he sticks to his guns," said Maurice Cloutier, managing editor of Sherbrooke's La Trib-

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ottawa mulls new word for 'multiculturalism'

CULTURE Jason Kenney is the federal minister in charge of Canada's multiculturalism. But for the last couple of years, he's been wondering whether "pluralism" might be a better word to describe this country's cultural diversity. And so have government officials, according to documents obtained

by the Toronto Star. "What if the picture we have of ourselves shifted Canada as a multicultural society to Canada as a pluralistic society?" is the question posed in a series of slides prepared for a September 2008 discussion within government.

"Would it change the way we design policy and programs? Would the notion of Canadian identity change?'

Multiculturalism, cording to Kenney and the documents, may have had the result of keeping various cultures separate in Canada, while "pluralism" is focused on getting cultures to work together.

Nearly 30 years since

shrined in the Constitution, Kenney believes that the word has become stuck in some old ways of thinking.

"Multiculturalism says to a lot of people 'kiosks at folk fests,'" Kenney says. "We need a term that has a deeper meaning."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

THEFT A Roman Catholic priest in Manitoba has been sentenced to 18 months of house arrest for stealing \$13,200 money from his

But a deacon says many from the congregation at St. Augustine of Canterbury in Brandon have forgiven Father Raju Madanu.

THE CANADIAN PRESS





TIME EVER AT THE BRICK!







mattress store

Clareview 4276 - 137 Ave. 780-442-0156

Leduc 780-980-1789 **Downtown** 11331 - 104 Ave. 780-428-2395

Fort Saskatchewan 102, 5410 Discovery Way 102 Cornerstone, 9410 - 86 Ave. 780-992-6540

Edmonton South 9856 Argyll Rd. 780-413-7271

> **Spruce Grove** unit 130, 4 Macleod Avenue 780-960-1980

Edmonton West 170 St & 100 Ave. 780-413-9225

> St. Albert 445 St. Albert Rd. 780-418-3632

Also available at all Brick locations

canada

Manitoba blames flu for deficit

Manitoba's NDP government is blaming swine flu, flooding and the global recession for a looming nine-figure deficit, but critics said the real problem is reckless spending. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Natural gas an answer to coal, says CEO

on coal begin to approach the end of their lifespans, natural gas is the logical successor to the carbon-intensive fuel source, the chief executive of TransCanada Corp. said Wednesday.

"The cheapest alterna-

replacing coal fired power is natural gas combined cycle," Hal Kvisle said in an interview.

"That's going to be the economic best answer in the near term."

Coal is especially prominent in Western Canada, are expected to go out of commission in the next 20 years or so - a decline that may be sped up by stricter greenhouse gas emissions.

"So if we're not going to rely very heavily on coal and today more than 50 comes from coal in Alberta and Saskatchewan - then what are we going to do?" Kvisle asked.

TransCanada is Canada's biggest shipper of natural gas, with a pipeline network that stretches from Alberta into Ontario, Quebec and parts of the United States.

But it is also heavily invested in nuclear and renewable power generation

TransCanada has had success with nuclear energy through its participation in Bruce Power, a vast generating facility about 250 kilometres northwest of Toronto.

The complex, in which Saskatchewan-based uranium miner Cameco Corp. is also a partner, supplies more than a fifth of Ontario's electricity.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Savings you've been wishing for



CityFido[™] anytime local minutes

- > Unlimited text²
- No System Access Fees



Phones at



With 3-yea







WAS \$35 NOW \$

Fido Cares

- 1. We give you FidoDollars™ so you can get your next phone for less.
- 2. Text messages to warn you before you exceed your plan
- 3. No System Access Fees
- 4. No term contract necessary

Use your minutes anywhere within your CityFido zone. Long distance charges may apply.

Switch now! Shop fido.ca Drop by a store or call 1-866-301-3436

Offers subject to change without notice. 1. Local airtime minutes within your CityFido zone only; additional local in-zone minutes and airtime used for calls made and received outside your CityFido zone cost 35¢ per minute. Long distance charges may apply and are determined based on your local calling area, not your CityFido zone; visit fido.ca/callingareas. 2. Includes text messages sent from Canada to a Canadian wireless number; text messages received from another mobile phone are free. Charges apply for premium text messages (alerts, messages related to content, contests and promotions). 3. A one-time Activation Fee of \$35 per line applies. Additional airtime, long-distance, roaming, data, add-ons, provincial 91-1 fees (if applicable) and taxes are extra and billed monthly. Device price shown valid with new activation on a Fido Agreement, early cancellation fees apply. 4. Offer available from December 10, 2009 to December 31, 2009. Valid on new activations with a 2- or 3-year Fido Agreement. A credit for the entire amount of the \$35 Activation Fee will appear on your first invoice. 5. Offer available until January 4, 2010. "Fido & design, Giving low prices a good home, CityFido and FidoDollars are trademarks of Fido Solutions Inc. BlackBerry*, RIM*, Research In Motion*, SureType*, SurePress* and related trademarks, names and logos are the property of Research In Motion Limited and are registered and/or used in the U.S. and countries around the world. Used under license from Research In Motion Limited. All other brand names and logos are trademarks of their respective owners. © 2009 Fido Solutions Inc.

FIDO STORES

Kingsway Mall
Londonderry Mall
Sherwood Park Mall
Southgate Centre
St. Albert's Centre, St. Albert

EXCLUSIVE DEALERS

AFFORDABLE WIRELESS Northgate Centre West Edmonton Mall CELLULAR BABY West Edmonton Mall GENERATION WIRELESS Bonnie Doon Shopping Centre UNIPAGE Mill Woods Town Centre West Edmonton Mall Londonderry Mall







((WIRELESSWAVE))

Walmart > . <

B.C. Ferries says it's upgrading ahead of regulations

SECURITY B.C. Ferries says it's been upgrading security well ahead of new regulations for ferries announced Wednesday by Ottawa

Federal Transport Minister John Baird says the regulations outline the security standards and responsibilities for domestic ferry operators and give Ottawa the powers to enforce the rules.

B.C. Ferries spokeswoman Deborah Marshall says the company has been working with Transport Canada for the past few years in anticipation of the new rules.

She says the company has been adding surveillance cameras and improving fencing, lighting and employee training.

Marshall says some areas of ferry terminals have been closed off to the public, bomb sniffing dogs have been deployed at some terminals and there are other security enhancements she can't reveal.

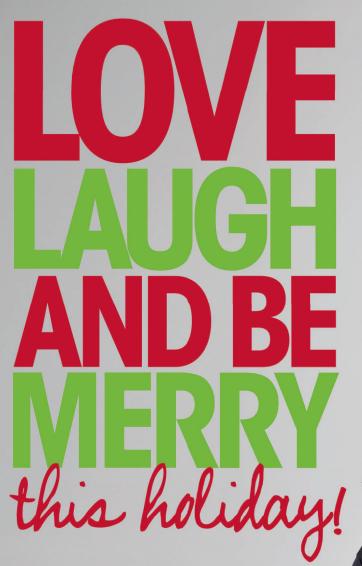
B.C. Ferries is the largest domestic ferry service in Canada, with 36 vessels and 47 terminals linking the mainland to Vancouver Island and other coastal islands.'

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Patient resistant to antiviral drug

SWINE FLU Manitoba Health officials have confirmed that a young swine flu patient under the age of 18 has been found to be resistant to an antiviral drug. They say the patient, who has underlying health conditions, didn't need to be hospitalized. It is the first case in the province of someone being resistant to Tamiflu, which is commonly used to treat people infected with the H1N1 virus. There have been seven other cases of antiviral resistance in Canada. THE CANADIAN PRESS

STITCHES STITCHES STITCHES





THE EVENT OF THE FAIL STATE ALLOW STATE OF THE FAIL STATE OF THE F

STITCHES ON LINE COM

West Edmonton Mall, South Edmonton Commons, Bonnie Doon Shopping Centre, Kingsway Mall

Check with your store for hours of operation

10

A man who walked into a Michigan diner with a 12.5-centimetre knife stuck in his chest ordered a coffee and complained only about the cold weather. The 52-year-old man called 911 Sunday to ask that an ambulance be sent. He said he had been stabbed during an attempted robbery, then walked about a kilometre to the restaurant and called 911 from a pay phone. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World



Movement to regulate drugs in U.S. water

Federal regulators under U.S. President Barack Obama have sharply shifted course on policy toward pharmaceutical residues in drinking water, taking a first step toward regulating some of the contaminants while acknowledging they may threaten human health. It was reported in 2008 that drinking water of 51 million Americans contains minute concentrations of a multitude of drugs such as antibiotics, sedatives and sex hormones.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Man with knife in chest felt like having coffee

Philippines Christmas in an evacuation shelter



Children, all evacuees of Mayon volcano's ongoing mild eruption, queue up for ice cream at an evacuation centre Wednesday. Despite the risk of an imminent explosive eruption of the 2,460-metre Mayon, some residents weary of shelters are conspiring to go back to their abandoned villages for traditional Christmas Eve family gatherings.

Dissident on trial

Diplomats, including Canadian, barred from entering Chinese court

A high-profile Chinese dissident accused of subversion was tried at a twohour hearing Wednesday that shut out foreign diplomats concerned over a case that reflects the communist government's deep suspicion of calls for political reform.

Liu Xiaobo was detained a year ago, just before the release of an unusually direct appeal for more civil rights in China he co-authored called Charter 08, signed by scores of China's top intellectuals. He faces up to 15 years in jail. The verdict is due Friday.

International human rights groups and Western nations have heavily criticized Liu's detention. A dozen diplomats, including from Canada, the United States, Britain, Germany and Australia, stood outside the Beijing courthouse in freezing weather, barred from entering, along with a handful of Liu's Chinese supporters

supporters.
"We call
on the government of
China to release him
immediately," said Gre-

gory May, Liu Xiaobo first secre-

tary with the U.S. Embassy. Liu, 53, a literary critic and former professor, spent 20 months in jail for joining the 1989 student-led protests in Tiananmen Square that were crushed in a military crackdown. In his writings, most published only on the Internet, he has strongly called for civil rights and political reform

Charter 08 demands a new constitution guaranteeing human rights, the open election of public officials, and freedom of religion and expression. Some 10,000 people have signed it in the past year, though a news blackout and Internet censorship have left most Chinese unaware that it exists

Liu has been the only person arrested over the charter, but rights groups said several signers have been harassed or fired from their jobs, and warned not to attend the trial or write about it online. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

LOS ANGELES A judge has de-nied a request from an AIDS advocacy group calling for mandatory use of condoms on porn sets. Judge David Yaffe on Tuesday rejected a petition from the AIDS Healthcare Foundation that health officials hadn't done enough to prevent sexually transmitted diseases in the porn industry, according to the Los Angeles Times. The group sued L.A. County in July after data showed there were more than 3,700 STD cases in five years reported by a clinic that serves porn actors. PHILIPPINES At least 27 people

ferry collided with a fishing boat in Manila Bay in the Philippines. Philippines coast guard spokesman Armand Balilo says at least 46 people were rescued following the collision early Thursday.

INDIANA Police say a fifthgrader handed out about \$300 to others on the school bus Friday. Problem is, they say, the cash was among some \$10,000 US he took from his grandparents' safe. The cash was later

are missing after a passenger

returned to them.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

m.metrenews.ca



The economy ended the year in much better shape than it was last January, but there are five key reasons economists think we're not out of the woods yet. Scan this barcode for the full story.

U.S. man wins 'David vs. Goliath' custody fight for son in Brazil

colorado David Goldman's bitter five-year battle to regain custody of his son neared conclusion Wednesday, when the child's Brazilian family halted its legal efforts as a court-ordered deadline for delivering the boy loomed.

With a court ordering the boy's handover Thursday morning at the U.S. Consulate, the end appeared to be in sight. Goldman's fight against a powerful family of Rio de Janeiro lawyers — a

"He can't wait to see his son to be together for the rest of their lives."

U.S. Rep. Chris Smith on David Goldman winning back custody of his son

David vs. Goliath matchup in a nation where the wealthy are used to coming out on top — shifted in recent months, legally and among ordinary Brazilians.

Goldman, of New Jersey, won a big legal victory late Tuesday when Brazil's chief justice upheld a lower court's ruling that ordered Sean returned to him. Sean has lived in Brazil since Goldman's ex-wife, Bruna Bianchi, took him to her native country for what was supposed to be a two-week vacation in 2004. Last year

she died in childbirth.

Sean's stepfather, Joao Paulo Lins e Silva, has continued the fight, winning temporary custody in Brazil of the boy. He looked prepared to keep him in the family's massive compound with multiple buildings surrounded by tropical trees, a large wall and gate where expensive SUVs pass through and security guards keep 24-hour watch.

Despite numerous court rulings in favour of Goldman, Lins e Silva continuously found an appeal route that delayed a handover.

"David is very guarded in his emotions because he had so many disappointments in his past, but he does believe that the 9 a.m. deadline is relatively firm," U.S. Rep. Chris Smith of New Jersey said. "He's optimistic. He can't wait to see his son and to be together for the rest of their lives."

THE ASSOCIATED PRES

Pediatrician's alleged victims as young as six months old

DELAWARE A pediatrician is accused of molesting more than 100 patients, including some who appear to be no more than six months old, and police said the doctor used video cameras to record some of the attacks in exam rooms

Alexis Slutsky, a deputy attorney general assigned to the state's Child Predator Task Force, said the volume of evidence seized from Dr. Earl Bradley's practice and home, including videotapes and computer files, makes it difficult to estimate the number of victims.

number of victims.
"I'm comfortable in saying probably well over 100

Disturbing charges

• An 18-page document detailed the alleged attacks in exam rooms, which had Disney themes such as Pinocchio, at BayBees Pediatrics, Bradley's solo practice. A detective who viewed the assaults described in court papers the six-foot, 225-pound Bradley as having a "violently enraged expression on his face" in one video involving a two-year-old.

potential victims," she said at a news conference.

The case has shocked

The case has shocked the community of Lewes, a town of about 3.100.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jamaica No serious injuries in runway mishap



Workers sift through debris around American Airlines flight 331, which crash-landed late Tuesday night in Kingston, Jamaica. The jet, carrying 154 people including three Canadians, skidded across a runway in heavy rain, bouncing across the tarmac and injuring more than 40 people before it stopped just short of the Caribbean Sea. There were no fatalities, officials said, and the Department of Foreign Affairs said the Canadians were not among the injured.

An unusually high tide flooded most of Venice early yesterday, forcing tourists and residents to wade through knee-high waters. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bill set to revamp U.S. health care

Passage will be a victory for Obama

The U.S. Senate was poised to hand President Barack Obama a huge Christmas Eve victory by approving a \$913 billion overhaul of U.S. health care, capping months of struggle in the face of solid Republican opposition.

Thursday's vote on the bill extending health care coverage to 30 million uninsured Americans brings Obama closer to achieving his top domestic priority. But the final step may be the hardest: Reconciling the Senate bill with a significantly different version alapproved by the House of Representatives.

A compromise would have to be approved by both chambers — and could collapse if Obama loses the support of any Democrat in

Health system overhaul

The legislation being passed in the U.S. Senate would bring important changes in the way health care is funded:

 Health insurance would still be provided mainly by employers, rather than the government, but it would now be mandatory for Ameri-

the Senate or a handful in the House.

Passage of the bill Thursday was all but inevitable. Wednesday, Democrats prevailed on the last of three procedural votes requiring the support of all of the party's 58 members, plus two allied independents. Thursday's vote will require only a simple majority of the 100-member body.

cans to have insurance. Lower- and middle-income families would receive subsidies to pay for insurance.

 Unpopular insurance company practices, such as denying coverage to people with pre-existing health conditions, would be banned.

"It has been a long time coming," said a leading Democratic senator, Max Baucus. "I thank God that I have lived to see this day."

The bill's passage will offer Obama a bright end to an often rocky year that began with huge hopes following his election victory. His public approval level now hovers around 50 per THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dutch teen sailor back in father's care

HOME SAFE A Dutch court ruled Wednesday that 14year-old sailor Laura Dekker can remain in her father's custody after she ran away from home and travelled alone to the Caribbean.

The ruling by the Utrecht District Court clears the way once again for Dekker to pursue her goal of being the youngest person to sail solo around the world.

"The court sees no need

home at this moment,' judges wrote.

Laura had originally planned to depart this year with the support of her fa-But that plan

was blocked Laura Dekker in October

by the court, which ordered her to prepare more and wait until 2010 before starting.

Frustrated, she fled last week with \$5,000, promptan internation.... h. She travelled to Paris and used a New Zealand passport to catch a flight to the Dutch Caribbean territory of St. Maarten.

Dekker was spotted on St Maarten and returned to the Netherlands on

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Alta.-based soldier killed

EXPLOSION A Canadian soldier, Lt. Andrew Richard Nuttall, has been killed by an improvised explosive device in southern Afghanistan.

Ān Afghan soldier was also killed and an interpreter injured in the blast, which occurred Wednesday in the restive Panjwaii district.

The explosion erupted in the town of Nakhoney, west of Kandahar city.

It's an area in which Canadian forces have frequently encountered problems, but one which had appeared to have calmed down in recent months.

Nuttall was with the 1st Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, based in Edmonton, Alberta. His age was not immediately available.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Second Irish bishop steps down over abuse

COVERUP A second Roman Catholic bishop in Ireland announced Wednesday that he will resign in the wake of a damning investigation into decades of covering up child abuse in the Dublin archdiocese.

Bishop Jim Moriarty revealed his decision to priests and other officials in his diocese of Kildare and Leithlin, southwest of Dublin. Officials said Moriarty planned to travel to Rome to tender his resignation to Pope Benedict XVI, who has sole power to hire and fire bishops.

Moriarty said he accepted investigators' finding that he failed to react properly when told about abuse cases, particularly of one priest convicted of molesting girls in 1997. But he insisted his inaction reflected his colleagues' poor communica-

tion and secrecy.
"With the benefit of hindsight, I accept that, from the time I became an auxiliary bishop, I should have challenged the pre-vailing culture," Moriarty said in a statement.

Last week Bishop Donal Murray of Limerick resigned, becoming the first high-profile casualty of a government-ordered probe into the church's failure to tell authorities about more than 170 suspected child abusers in Dublin.

Abuse victims comed yesterday's resigannouncement. nation but emphasized that they believe three other current bishops named in the report must quit as well.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOXING DAYS

We will beat ALL Competitors Rates... **Guaranteed!**

If the Country you call is not listed, call now and we'll beat the rate you are currently paying.



UNLIMITED

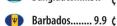
Calling to Anywhere in

CANADA

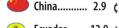








Chile2	.9



	LCuau0112.9	1
w	El Salvador 9.9	

0man......14.9 ¢





Ghar	1a9.9	
ullal	Id9.9	

	,	
88	Honduras15.9	

U.A.E.....16.9

Make Long Distance calls to Anywhere in the World from your Cell Phone at Comwave's **GUARANTEED** Lowest Rates

No need to cancel your service provider. \$10 Free Long Distance for every friend you refer



780-665-18



BOXING WEEKEND SALE

Saturday, Dec. 26th & Sunday, Dec. 27th



ALSO, \$311" off

LG PQ30-Series 42" HD Plasma TV • 720p resolution panel • 3 HDMI inputs • Energy Star qualified Model #42PQ30. Reg. \$999.99 While quantities last.

UP TO 30% off Regular-priced electronics



WHIRLPOOL 17.5 cu. ft. white top mount fridge

PLUS, UP TO 15% off All other regular-priced





MAKE NO MONTHLY PAYMEN

for 24 months PLUS No Deferral Fees (that's a \$99.95 Savings) when you use your Hbc MasterCard* or Hbc Credit Card on any Furniture, Mattresses, Electronics, Housewares or Linens purchase of \$499 or more. December 26th & 27th only! See in-store for details.



CLEARANCE

CLEARANCE-PRICED ELECTRONICS, MATTRESSES & FURNITURE

BOXING WEEKEND SALE! ALL stores open at 8AM Dec. 26th only!



55% off

All women's

Men's regular-priced **IZOD Fulton**

casual pant





50% off

All regular-priced women's fashion & winter boots

Off our regular prices. Excludes Juicy Couture, UGG Austrailia, Pedder Red & all athletic boots.

60% off

All men's & women's sleepwear & robes

Off our regular prices.
Excludes Josie by Natori, Packaged PJ's,





50% off

Women's cold-weather accessories, hats, scarves & gloves

Off our regular prices.
Excludes Lauren by Ralph Lauren,
Juicy Couture, Expression
Intelligent wrap &
Expression cashmere wrap.

ALL PREVIOUSLY REDUCED CLEARANCE MERCHANDISE:

- ALL MEN'S, WOMEN'S & KIDS' FASHIONS & FOOTWEAR (Excludes The Room)
- WOMEN'S INTIMATES & SLEEPWEAR
- MEN'S UNDERWEAR & SLEEPWEAR
- MEN'S & WOMEN'S SOCKS & HOSIERY
- MEN'S & WOMEN'S ACCESSORIES
- WALLETS, HANDBAGS, LUGGAGE & BACKPACKS
- WATCHES & JEWELLERY

WAS 100 NOW 40% OFF PLUS extra 25% off



14

Publisher, Steve Shrout Managing Editor, Harry Hodge

Sales Manager, Cheryl Skogg Distribution Manager, Jim Hillman METRO CANADA Group Publisher, Bill McDonald Assoc Managing Editor, Tarin Elbert Enter/Lifestyle Editor, Dean Lisk Asst Managing Editor, Amber Shortt Art Director, Laila Hakim National Sales Director, Peter Bartrem Interactive/Mrktng Director, Jodi Brown

Comment & Views

Comment

Season for memories



have no way of knowing under what circumstances you're reading this, whether you're on your way home for the holidays or headed to work, trying to finish your shopping or just catching your breath.

It would be foolish of me to assume anything about what your holidays might look like, since you might not even know. I hope they're peaceful and spent with those you love, but that can be harder than it

Tomorrow will be whatever it is, and it often looks nothing like the Christmas cards. Our families have bent into all sorts of surprising shapes, and some of us are trying to make it to two or more Christmases, sometimes in different cities or countries.

Travel at this time of year is rough because it's so often mandatory, and schedules are tight. The weather is predictably unpredictable, and countless people find themselves stranded in airports, in hotels, anywhere but where they planned to be. Mangers,

And for many of us, there are empty, unfillable spots at the table, where somebody used to be and never will be again. That

hurt gets quieter, but it doesn't go away, and it has a way of flaring up at this time of year. It isn't all Mer-

ry Happy.
One of the best Christmases I remember was also one of the worst. My father had died only a couple of months before and the rest of us were going to get together at my sister's, traditional as can be, closing ranks against grief.

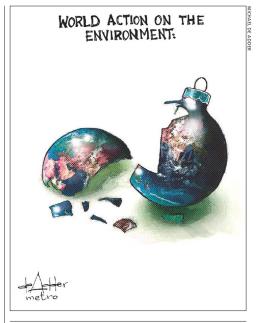
It didn't work out that way. Instead, we got waylaid 300 miles away with a house full of burst pipes and a stack of estate and insurance chores to chew over with a lawyer who didn't want to be there either.

We ended up stuck in a motel room, but we were stuck together. We had laughs as well as some sobs, and got some laundry done at the coin wash. O holy night.

It wasn't what we expected and this holiday seldom is. Expectations are a big part of the problem, as we all try to transform ourselves from real people to perfect happy families in perfect happy sweaters.

So have yourself a merry little whatever, try to accept the relatives for who they are and who they are trying to be for the occasion. I wish you surpassingly great presents and more hugs than you can handle, but if it doesn't work out. you'll be in good company as we imperfectly celebrate another year of this imperfect, irreplaceable life.

Steve Collins offers his best guesses on relationships for Metro every two weeks.



Worth mentioning

North Korea gambles with new arms route

in June, banning North Ko-

rea from exporting any arms

after the communist regime

conducted a nuclear test and

Sanctions

test-fired missiles.

North Korea, banned from selling arms by UN sanctions, may have gambled and lost when it dis-

patched 35 tons of weapons by rather air than by sea as it has done in the past. Authorities

seized the plane, which

may have been bound for Iran, during a refuelling stop in Thailand.

The 11-day saga remains shrouded in mystery and missing pieces, including the final destination of the Ilyushin Il-76 cargo plane now under Thai custody along with its five-man crew.

Among difficulties facing investigators is a fly-bynight infrastructure seemingly rigged up for the

flight, including a Hong Kong-based company re-• The UN imposed sanctions portedly involved that was only incorporated Nov. 2 and whose direc-

tor could not be traced there or at his address in

But experts in South Korea say one thing appears clear: North Korea is seeking new ways to bust through a U.S.-led interdiction program of its arms

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Views

Feminist newsmakers of the past year



If you needed any proof that feminism is necessary. all you need to do is look to this year's newsmakers. My feminist heroes for 2009 defended and expanded our ideas of what women can be, while the villains tried to scale them back:

Lady Gaga: There's a savvy woman behind the latex bodysuits and comically oversized sunglasses: Gaga takes her persona to an extreme because she recognizes it is constructed, and she criticizes double standards between female and male musicians (being open about sex undermines her music, while his exploits heighten his). And can you remember the last time a pop star used the F-word? Lady G called a Los Angeles Times writer "a little bit of a feminist, like I am," adding, "women need and want someone to look up to that they feel have the full sense of who they

Rihanna: Speaking of singers, here's one that reluctantly championed women's rights. After being assaulted by Chris Brown, Rihanna was silent about the whole ordeal until this fall, when she says she realized her fame afford-

ed her a voice to educate

domestic

on

women

Lady Gaga

abuse. Neda **Agha** Soltan: During the disputed Iranian election, Neda was on her way to a pro-reform rally June 20 when alsniper legedly shot and

galvanized protesters and lent a face to the thousands shouting to make their votes count. Since the crackdown, the govern-ment has harassed and arrested prominent activists - women's rights organizers and Nobel peace laureate Shirin Ebadi among them. Stephen Harper: In recent years, the

video of her last moments

prime minister has killed funding for advocacy groups and ideologically neutered Status of Women Canada (a federal policy organization charged with improving the lives of women) by removing the essential "equality" part from its mandate. This September, Ĥarper crowed

about cuts to

the Court Challenges Program, which financially assists people mounting constitutional court challenges and called the people that used that funding a "left-wing fringe group."

VANOC: It started when a

group of female ski jumpers challenged VANOC's decision to ex-clude its event at the 2010 Games, but ended Tuesday when the Supreme Court refused to hear its case. Sadly, it's neither the first nor last Olympics-related trampling of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms: The City of Vancouver ordered the removal of an anti-Olympic mural, while VANOC demanded a local restaurant named Olympia change its moniker. The heroines in all this are the athletes some are teenagers fighting women's rights, while at that age I was busy popping zits and moping.

Canice Leung is a former editor of Ryersor University feminist magazine McClung's, copy editor at Metro, ardent feminist and loudmouth.

We Know What You're Thinking



The number of Canadians who would prefer to receive a meaningful gift that would help someone else, rather than another traditional gift like a pair of socks or a sweater

WHAT YOU'RE THINKING

Tell us your views by email to edmontonletters@metronews.ca or comment on metronews.ca or on Twitter @metroedmonton



Wherever you go. Whatever you do. Nokia will be with you at every turn. Exclusive Ovi Maps guide you to the hottest hangouts or your closest friends. With hi-res satellite maps, 3D landmarks for over 200 cities and easy-to-use pedestrian navigation, you can go virtually wherever life happens to lead you.

3 25

Nokia E71

Nokia Surge



NOKIA Connecting People

Go to **ovi.com** to discover new apps, maps, and more for your Nokia phone.



Nokia N86 8MP

16

India emerges as world leader in small cars

India has emerged the world leader in small cars, overtaking Japan, as declining sales in Western markets coupled with robust growth in Asia redraws the global map of the auto industry. More than 892,000 basic cars will be sold in India this year, surpassing the 708,034 forecast for Japan, according to J.D. Power and Associates. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Group gauges Canadians' financial literacy

The federal government's much-ballyhooed Task Force on Financial Literacy is scheduled to release a consultation document in February as its 13 members gear up for nationwide consultations.

Appointed by Finance Minister Jim Flaherty last

June, the task force has the goal of creating Canada's first national strategy on financial literacy.

Although the tide appears to have turned on the recession, task force members say there is a pressing need for Canada to develop a potent plan of

action because consumers are deeper in debt than before. Household debt-to-income ratio hit a record 145 per cent in September, meaning for every \$100 of income, Canadians owe \$145 in debt.

Some experts argue that financial literacy programs are ineffective and amount to little more than a political guise designed to quell calls for more government regulation of the financial sector. Task force member Laurie Campbell, however, says such criticisms are "very short-sighted."

Since June, she and her

colleagues have been assessing the state of financial literacy in Canada.

After gauging the efficacy of domestic and international programs, and hold-ing public consultations, the task force will produce a final report in late 2010.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Consultations

• The task force will hold public forums in April and May. It is also canvassing Canadians via email, fax and post. Visit financial literacyincanada.com.





Ch-ch-chat all winter. Amazing phones now under \$100.















BONUS: For a limited time, enjoy \$50 off accessories when you purchase any phone from Bell⁴



Calgary 1221 Canyon Meadows Dr. SE 403 262-3340

Edmonton

780 469-3880

Calgary 4307 130 Avenue SE 403 726-9977

Edmonton Northgate Centre 780 478-9815 Calgary

Edmonton

Edmonton

Edmonton Abbottsfield Shoppers Mall 780 477-7795

Cars Holiday shopping



A salesman shows a Buick LaCrosse CXS in Richmond, Calif... yesterday. Wealthier car buyers are returning to the showroom this season, but choosing smaller models of luxury vehicles.

Smart phones will be targets of cybercrime, experts say

THREAT The new year will see more attacks moving to smart phones, now that the devices are being used more as mobile computers, security experts say.

What's expected to be targeted are "apps" — software applications that let users do things like mobile banking and payments, as well as any other personal or work information on their smart phones.

"Attackers will probably be devoting more time to creating malware for those devices," said David Cowings of Symantec Security Response.

The move to smartphones is natural because many users synchronize them with their computers to allow better access to email, contacts and work documents that often contain a wealth of information. Cyber attacks could infect both the smartphone and PC, said Cowings. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business in brief

FORECAST Some economists are predicting that Canada's gross domestic product will expand by 2.5 per cent next year, after seeing a modest 0.2 per cent growth in October. Statistics Canada says real gross domestic product grew for a second consecutive month in October, with increased production in most sectors. The recovery is largely being fuelled by activity in the real estate sector, which rose 7.2 per cent in October. The predicted growth would essentially reverse a similar decline this year. TELECOM Nortel announced yesterday it has entered an agreement to sell its carrier voice over Internet protocol and application solutions business to Genband Inc. for \$282 million US. The bankrupt telecom equipment maker said Genband will act as the "stalking horse" bidder and set the floor price at an auction supervised by bankruptcy courts.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

m.metrenews.ca



urban-planet.com ON DECEMBER 26th COME HELP US CELEBRATE! BE THERE EARLY FOR SPECIAL GIVEAWAYS AND EARLY-BIRD DOORCRASHERS! **EDMONTON CITY CENTRE WEST EDMONTON MALL LONDONDERRY MALL** KINGSWAY MALL 10205 - 101st Street 780-423-7960 137th Avenue & 66th Street 780-456-2706 109th St. & Princess Elizabeth Ave. 780-474-8932 8882 - 170th Street 780-486-6961

Gasol agrees to deal with Lakers

Pau Gasol has agreed to a three-year contract extension with the Los Angeles Lakers, and he's hoping Kobe Bryant follows his lead. Gasol's deal extends through the 2013-14 season, and could be worth more than \$60 million US depending on future salary caps. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports



Deadline looms for fight

The promoter for boxing sensation Manny Pacquiao, left, says a fight against Floyd Mayweather Jr. will not happen unless Mayweather's camp drops its e for Olympic-style blood testing. Promoter Bob Arum says if that doesn't happen by Thursday, the proposed March 13 fight that would have likely been the richest ever in boxing is over.

THE ASSOCIATED PR THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Sports in brief

ALFREDSSON The Ottawa Senators are expected to be without captain Daniel Alfredsson for at least a few weeks after he left late in the first period of Wednesday game in Pittsburgh with a left shoulder injury. "I'll probably see the doctor (Thursday) and do an X-ray and see what the damage is," said Alfredsson, whose arm was in a sling. "But I expect at least a few

PIERCE Celtics forward Paul Pierce had fluid drained from his right knee Wednesday and will miss the next two weeks. Pierce did not make the flight to Orlando for a Christmas Day game against the Magic.

CRISP The Athletics have finalized a \$5.25 million US, oneyear contract with free agent outfielder Coco Crisp. The deal announced Wednesday pays Crisp \$4.75 million next year and includes a \$5.75 million club option for 2011 with a \$500,000 buyout.

BILLS An ankle injury prevented Buffalo Bills starter Ryan Fitzpatrick from practising Wednesday, opening the possibility for Brian Brohm to make his NFL debut at Atlanta this weekend. Interim head coach Perry Fewell declined to rule out Fitzpatrick, saying the quarterback was feeling better after he was hurt in a 17-10 loss against New England last weekend.

BRAVES The power-hungry Atlanta Braves are hoping longtime third baseman Troy Glaus can fill the team's void at first base. The Braves have reached a preliminary agreement on a one-year contract with Glaus, a person with knowledge of the negotiations told The Associated Press.

UMPIRES Major League Baseball ensured its first decade of labour peace since the 1960s by agreeing to a fiveyear contract with umpires that runs through 2014. The deal announced Wednesday. which is subject to ratification next month, was the second straight achieved without acrimony since a failed mass resignation in 1999 led to 22 umpires losing their jobs. **BLUE JAYS** The Toronto Blue

Jays have completed their trade for pitcher Brandon Morrow. They're sending reliever Brandon League and minor-league outfielder Johermyn Chavez to the Seattle Mariners in exchange. Morrow split time between the bullpen and starting rotation last year but will be given a chance to start with the Blue Jays. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Oilers lose fifth in a row

NHL





Minnesota Wild goalie Niklas Backstrom thinks of the Edmonton Oilers as just another division opponent. The stats say something quite different.

On Wednesday night, Backstrom continued his mastery of the Oilers, stopping 30 shots in the Wild's 3-1 victory to improve to 14-1 in his career against Edmonton.

"It seems like he has our team's number," said Oilers centre Shawn Horcoff, lamenting missed opportunities. "Tonight it actually seemed like he wasn't that comfortable in there. He was kicking out some rebounds and we just weren't picking up quality chances at the net.

Backstrom, 11-0 against the Oilers at home, stopped Patrick O'Sullivan on a third-period breakaway and Sheldon Souray on a shorthanded rush late in the

"I don't try to think about



Edmonton Oiler Ryan Stone pulls the jersey of Minnesota's Clayton Stoner's up over his face during a first-period fight Wednesday in St. Paul. Minn. The Wild won the game 3-1.

that," Backstrom said. "It's the same as when you go out and think about the shutout - the next shot is going to be a goal. It's a good team to play against."

Andrew Brunette, Owen Nolan and Guillaume Latendresse scored for the Wild, who snapped a two-game

Robert Nilsson scored the only goal for the Oilers, losers of five in a row.

Nolan's winner came late in the second period, when he took advantage of an Oilers defensive error. After a pass from Eric Belanger, Nolan closed on the Oilers' net just as Edmonton de-fenceman Steve Staios tripped and fell, leaving a clear route to the crease. Nolan flipped a rising backhander beyond Oilers goaltender Jeff Deslauriers'

"I didn't have many options," said Nolan, who also had a third-period fight with Souray. "He is a big goalie and the scouting report is that he goes down. I tried to get the puck up."

The teams traded goals midway through the opening period. With Minnesota on a power play Marek

Zidlicky's shot from the blue-line created a sizable rebound. Brunette was able to corral and deposit the loose puck with a sweeping backhand shot.

Edmonton answered less than two minutes later on a similar play. Backstrom made a blocker save of a long-range shot by defenceman Tom Gilbert, but sent the rebound 10 feet out. Nilsson got possession and was able to backhand the puck past the sprawling goaltender.

"He made some big saves at key times tonight," Wild coach Todd Richards said. "We did a decent job in front of him. I think he would like to have that goal back. He kind of threw the rebound right back out in front."

Latendresse scored into an empty net with 5.9 seconds left. Deslauriers finished with 24 saves for the Oilers, who had won five road games in a row before Wednesday.

"There were a lot of good things we could take out of there," Oilers coach Pat Quinn said. "If we can just get rid of some of those boneheaded soft plays, we'll get there." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canada faces some tough competition

They are the home team therefore favourite, but winning gold at the world junior championship won't be easy for Canada.

The Swedes, who lost 5-1 to their hosts in the final last year in Ottawa, are back with big goaltender Jacob Markstrom and a fleet of gifted forwards, and the Russians, who lost to Canada in a shootout in the semifinals, should be just as dangerous with Nikita Filatov cruising for

Meanwhile, the Canadians have lost some of their best scorers to the NHL, like John Tavares, Matt Duchene and Evander Kane, as well as the injured Cody Hodgson, and may need to rely more than usual on defence and team play as they try to win a record sixth consecutive gold medal.

"The record is exciting in



Canada's Brayden Schenn is stuffed by Czech Republic goalie Pavel Francouz during world junior exhibition play Wednesday. Canada edged the Czech Republic 3-2 on a goal by Jordan Eberle.

itself, especially to do it on home soil," said Canadian defenceman Ryan Ellis, one of four Windsor Spitfires on the team. "It's important for us to win this and be part of history.

"It would help if we had a lot of those guys in the NHL, but I think we'll be fine. Everyone will step up and play better than they ever have."

The tournament, officially called the IIHF Under-20 World Championship, kicks off Saturday with Canada playing the first round in Saskatoon in Group A with Slovakia, the U.S., Latvia and Switzerland, while the tighter Group B in Regina has Sweden, Russia, the

Czech Republic, Finland and Austria. The final is Jan. 5.

Canada opens against Latvia with six players returning from last year's squad: Ellis and fellow defencemen Alex Pietrangelo of the St. Louis Blues and Colten Teubert of the Regina Pats, and forwards Jordan Eberle of the Pats. Patrice Cormier of the Rimouski Oceanic and Stefan Della Rovere of the Barrie Colts.

Eberle, who scored six goals in as many games at last year's tournament, and Brayden Schenn of the Brandon Wheat Kings, who was drafted fifth overall by the Los Angeles Kings in June, are expected to be offensive engines, along with an entire line of Spitfires: Centre Adam right-winger Henrique, Greg Nemisz and leftwinger Taylor Hall.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SCOREBOARD

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS Minnesota 3 EDMONTON 1 St. Louis 2 Calnarus (1970)

Montreal 5 Carolina 1
N.Y. Islanders 3 Toronto Montreal 5 Carolina 1 N.Y. Islanders 3 Toronto 1 Pittsburgh 8 Ottawa 2 Boston 6 Atlanta 4 Chicago 3 Detroit 0 Dallas 3 Columbus 1 N.Y. Rangers 4 Florida 1 Philadelphia 5 Tampa Bay 2 Phoenix 4 Anaheim 0 Washington 5 Buffalo 2

THURSDAY
No Games Scheduled.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

WEDNESDAY'S RES
Toronto 94 Detroit 64
Denver 124 Atlanta 104
Miami 80 Utah 70
Minnesota 103 New Jersey 99
New Orleans 108 Golden State 102
Oklahoma City 117 Phoenix 113
Offanda 102 Houston 87
Portland 95 San Antonio 94
Washington 109 Milwaukee 97
Cleveland at Sacramento

THURSDAY No Games Scheduler

m.metrenews.ca



Scan this barcode for the most recent Sports updates on your smartphone. Learn how to scan the barcode with the instructions at the top of pg 3

y service providers. Subscri ly, paid up to a maximum m r. Visit gmstudentbonus.ca v 01/11/10. See dealer or or to Dealer or call us at 1-800-GM-DRIVE ± \$1,000 holiday bonus cash in (SMA)Aveo (1870). Down spyment and for trade may be required. Morn models, Dealer trade may be required. Dealers are free to set individual models. Dealer trade may be required. Dealers are free to set individual atturns a vary, of LS covernment acting set act to the National High atturns to function in Croparia Constant acts as at link to be asket of the mergency arths' GMAC finance payments for finance terms up to 60 months only, one actain the or experients of any pervious off Authority advantage offer, available to recibinist at may previous off Authority advantage offer, available to recibinist at may previous off Authority advantage of eldery by Us. w or demonstrator models, ual fuel consumption may very and operating for features the apy the first two months of m signing. Program not ave trictions apply. Not available ings. Your actual fullings. Your actual full be available and of KGMCL will pay the payable upon signand other restriction

LOW ON PRICE. HIGH ON FEATU



BEST HIGHWAY FUEL EFFICIENCY

IN ITS CLASS (EXCLUDES HYBRIDS)*



COBALT **FOR** MONTHS†

FREIGHT & PDI INCLUDED

INCLUDES • Ecotec 2.2L 4-Cylinder Engine • 5-Speed Manual Transmission • Standard CD with MP3 Playback and Audio Input Jack • 60/40 Split Folding Rear Seats



2009 CHEVROLET AVEO

FOR MONTHS[†]

FREIGHT & PDI INCLUDED

HOLIDAY BONUS

INCLUDES • Ecotec 1.6L 4-Cylinder DOHC Engine • 5-Speed Manual Transmission • Standard CD with MP3 Playback and Audio Input Jack • 60/40 Split Folding Rear Seats

ALBERTACHEVROLET.COM

60 DAY SATISFACTION GUARANTEE

NEW TOY NEW



HWY: 5.7L/100KM - 50 MPG CITY: 7.9L/100KM - 36 MPG*





CHEVROLET

20

Longines ladies Dolce Vita watch, \$1,750, features 12 numerals set with six diamonds and silver dots. Available at every retailer across Canada that carries Longines. For more, go to longines.com. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Shopping Guide

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

Bathing beauties



Rocky Mountain Soap Company's Spicy Mandarin Christmas, \$21.50. Includes Large Spicy Mandarin

Body Butter, Spicy Mandarin Soap, and Spicy Mandarin Bath Salt. Available at stores across Canada, or at rockymountain soap.com.



12 Days of Christmas, \$74.95, includes a Holiday Bubble Bar, Jingle Spells, and more. Call 1-866-644-5874 or visit



Winter White Fresh and Winter White Citrus body wash, \$16.50 each; and Winter White Fresh and Winter White Citrus splash, \$29.50 each. Available at Bath and Body Works stores across Canada. For more, go to bathandbodyworks.com.



Fruity Foaming Bath Collection, \$24 (6 x 40 mL). Comes in six colours and fragrances: Field Berries, Pear-Peony,





MERRY CRANBERRY COLLECTION

Pamper her with cranberry treats from The Body Shop this holiday season. This best-selling holiday favourite collection includes bath and shower gel, soap, lip balm, body butter, frosted shimmer lotion, candles, home fragrance oil, and much more.

\$5-524

Available at The Body Shop stores across Canada. thebodyshop.ca



Jacky Frost, Gingerbread Woman and Snow Woman bath and shower bubbles, \$20 each. For more, go to cake beauty.com.



Season's Treatings by Bliss, \$45, includes body butter, hand cream and body wash. Available at Sephora. For more, call 1-877-737-4672. Molton Brown
Hand Wash
and Molton
Brown Hand
Lotion, \$30
each.
Available at
Murale stores
across Canada. For more,
go to
murale.ca.



This Princess 6 V Quad car, \$119.99, includes a 6-volt battery and charger. Suitable for ages 3 and up. At Canadian Tire, canadiantire.ca. METRO NEWS SERVICES



Advice for the procrastinator

BRIAN COULTON for Metro Canada

It's Dec. 24. You settle in front of the tube with a

cider to watch It's A Wonderful Life, glance at the gifts under the tree and get the feeling you're forgetting something.

Don't fear, present procrastinator!

Just remember these tips to weather the last-minute holiday shopping hustle...

Prime for lines

Lineups amid your heeldragging brethren can encourage public fits of frustration due to the claustrophobic combination of chipper Christmas music, flashing lights and other latecomers inadvertently touching you. So zen out by bringing a rousing book or iPod to tune out the lot. Podcasts from programs like CBC's Definitely Not The Opera or NPR's This American Life will make you happy by making light of the human absurdity you're surrounded by.

Be thoughtfully

thoughtless Sure, gift cards aren't the most attentive festive offerings, but they're easy, often have no expiry date and save you from picking a present the recipient completely hate, thereby ruining your relationship forever all because you waited so long to shop. Plus, it doesn't take much to personalize a plastic rectangle. Consider what the giftee likes (makeup? books? power tools?) and pick a shop with a selection of it. Buy a greeting card, write a schmaltzy message expressing your love, and seal with gift card inside.

When all else fails, remember the two Fs...

Fragrances and full-refund! Perfume and cologne provide a perfect outlet to buy your way out of Christmas neglect. Go expensive: Black Orchid by Tom Ford or Stella by Stella McCartney for ladies; Tabarome by Creed or π (Pi Neo) by Givenchy for guys. If you buy a box set, crack it open and wrap items individually to mask your embarrassingly obvious inclination toward a deal. But whether buying an eau de toilette or toiletries (don't gift toiletries), always ask for the store refund policy and/or obtain a gift receipt. This lets the recipient return your present and get what they really wanted in the first place.

. Unless the stores are closed

If you waited this long, you've really only got two options left: The Internet or scratch-and-wins. For some reason, not everybody appreciates the latter, Instead, use the series of tubes to find a gift you don't need to wait for in the mail. Magacoupons for music and book downloads and getaway bookings are easy point-and-click buys and don't even require wrapping. Simply pen a note

proclaiming your thoughtfulness, emphasize how your gift is so superior the recipient must wait to get it, and watch the joy spread across his or her face on Christmas morning.



21

Did you forget to do your holiday shopping?



exclusively at Rogers, for under a buck* That means brands like BlackBerry, Nokia, Samsung and LG, that were priced under a hundred bucks, are available now, for under a buck.* So hurry in, while supplies last.

WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

EXCLUSIVELY FROM **()** ROGERS

rogers.com/underabuck

"Sony Ericsson X1, HTC Magic and BlackBerry Bold 9000 (white) available with new activation on any 3-yr. term voice and data plan having min. \$45 monthly service fee. Nokia N86 8MP and LG Eve available with new activation on any 3-yr. term voice plan. Early cancellation fees apply.

"Rogers & Mobius Design are trademarks of or used under license from or with permission of Rogers Communications. or an affiliate. "BlackBerry and related trademarks, names and logos are the property of Research In Motion Limited and are registered and/or used in the U.S. and countries around the world, used under license from Research In Motion Limited. "Google and the Google logo are trademarks of or used under license or with permission of Google Inc. The HTC logo and HTC Magic are trademarks of High Tech Computer Corporation used under license or with permission. eBay is a trademark of eBay Inc., used with permission. All other brand names and logos are trademarks of their respective owners. © 2009 Rogers Wireless.

22

This year in fashion 2009

Hosted by Glen Baxter, a special edition of In Fashion reviews the memorable moments and events that shaped the world of fashion in 2009. Premieres Sunday on CTV. METRO NEWS SERVICE

Style



If the shoe fits... the recipient
Need a last-minute gift idea for the fashionista in your life? Dazzle her
with the The Red Shoe Lover's Cell Phone Holder. This bejeweled stand, orned with fully-faceted crystals, fits most standard headsets and features a built-in grommet for a recharging cable. She will be head over heels for it! Available at The Shoe (thesource.ca) for \$9.99.

METRO NEWS SERVICE

Best and worst '09

Metro polled editors across our 100 editions worldwide to compile this list of who looked great and who didn't this year









Mounir Mouffarige recently stepped down from his post as Emanuel Ungaro's CEO to devote more time to his other businesses.

Ungaro president steps down

DESIGNER The president of foundering Paris-based label Emanuel Ungaro hired Hollywood star Lindsay Lohan last season in what critics decried as a desperate move to revive the flagging brand — has stepped down, the fashion house said in a statement last week.

Lebanese-born businessman Mounir Moufarrige is leaving "in order to devote more time to his other businesses, namely, in the watch and jewelry industry," the statement said.

A press officer for the Ungaro said Moufarrige, who joined the label in 2006, will continue to serve on its strategic committee as an adviser on an "as-needed ba-

Moufarrige has made a specialty out of reviving se-mi-dormant brands: His achievements include turning the Montblanc pen into a cult object and hiring then little-known designer Stella McCartney at Chloe.

Once favoured by Hollywood's elite, Ungaro had been bleeding money since its founder retired in 2004. However, Moufarrige struggled to turn the label around, and his attempts to appeal to younger consumers appeared to grow ever more desperate as the years ticked by

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Changes

Ungaro vice-president Marie Fournier has been named general manager "to oversee all operations," according to a recent statement. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



have pulled it

together in recent

months, Kanye West's girlfriend

of 2009 looking

like one hot skin

tight legging

wearing mess.

spent the majority



2





6

Lively lights up Green Lantern

Gossip Girl actress Blake Lively is set to star in new comic book movie Green Lantern. The 22-year-old blonde star is being lined-up to play the love interest of the main character Hal Jordan — who is played by Ryan Reynold. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Entertainmen It's a boy for Johnny Knoxville and girlfriend Naomi Nelson. The couple welcomed son Rocko Akira Clapp on Sunday in Los Angeles. The baby weighed in at 8 pounds. PEOPLE.COL

Baby Knoxville

Gilliam creates imaginary world

The Imaginarium of **Doctor Parnassus**

Director: Terry Gilliam Stars: Heath Ledger, Johnny Depp

Rating: 🕮 🕮 ½

RICHARD CROUSE for Metro Canada

As you may have guessed from the title, The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus is an odd movie Directed by Terry Gilliam, it's the strange tale of a mysterious immortal who complicates his life by making deals with the devil.

Complicating Gilliam's life during production was the unexpected death of his star Heath Ledger but, the show, as they say, must go on and here we are after

the untimely January 2008 passing of the young actor, with a completed film. How did Gilliam finish the movie? A new credit, A Film from Heath Ledger and Friends tells the tale.

Three of Ledger's buddies, Johnny Depp (seen dancing on a leaf!), Colin Farrell and Jude Law, stepped in to play "through the looking glass" versions of the late actor.

Set in present day London the film begins with a look at Doctor Parnassus' Plummer) (Christopher bizarre traveling show that offers people a chance to step through Dr.P's magical mirror into an alternate reality. He's selling imagination, but his gift of mind's eye manipulation came with a heavy price.

Eons before he made a trade with the devil (Tom



Actor Heath Ledger died unexpected during production of The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus.

Waits): Remarkable power in exchange for his first born daughter on her sixteenth birthday. That anniversary is now days away but with the help of a mysterious stranger named Tony (played by Ledger, Depp, Law and Farrell) and the magic mirror Dr. P just may be able to save her.

The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus is more a piece of surrealist art than a traditional movie. Imagine watching a Salvador Dali painting come to life and you'll get the idea.

Gilliam, who co-wrote the script as well as directed, has allowed his imagination to run riot.

While the story mean-ders to and fro he fills the screen with unforgettable images; Old Nick dangling Dr. P from the end of a

On the web

 For movie trailers, photos and screen times - or to tickets metronews.ca/movies.

branch or a multi-eyed hot air balloon shaped like a man's head or the ensemble of skirt wearing, dancing Bobbies. Visually it'll make your eyeballs do the Watusi.

The story, however, may leave some a bit baffled, but so what if it warps the brain a bit? The film oozes Gilliam's trademarked anarchic spirit — he might be the only filmmaker who could replace his leading man with three other actors and actually pull it off — and is the most original movie of the year.

It's Complicated uncommonly mature

It's Complicated

Director: Nancy Meyers Stars: Meryl Streep, Alec Baldwin, Steve Martin Classification: 14A Rating: •••

PHIL BROWN for Metro Canada

REVIEW Writer/director Nancy Meyers (Something's Got To Give) is a specialist in romantic comedies about middle-aged women. It's a genre with a built in audience and normally few sur-

However, there's some-

thing different about It's Complicated. This movie actually presents psychologically believable characters and doesn't offer easy happy endings. For a holiday release comedy, it is surprisingly well written despite the Hollywood fantasy elements.

Sure everyone in the movie is ridiculously rich and impossibly attractive, but if Meryl Streep and Alec Baldwin actually had children there probably wouldn't be a fugly kid in the family.

Meryl Streep stars as a divorcee whose youngest child just left for college.

Just as she starts planting the seeds for a relationship with a charming architect (Steve Martin), Streep has a drunken rendezvous with her ex-husband (Alec Baldwin) that leads to an affair.

All the expected comic mix-ups and zany shenanigans follow, but what is a pleasant surprise is that they have genuine repercussions for the characters and nothing gets tidied up in an obvious way.

For the most part this is a lighthearted romp, but Nancy Meyers crafts her characters as believable human beings and there is a mature undercurrent of reality rarely found in this sort of movie.

Despite the clever screenplay, this is an actor's movie and Meyers cast the roles well.

Meryl Streep is her expected excellent self, getting plenty of laughs while still creating a three di-mensional character. Steve Martin delivers the goods as always, but the real star is Alec Baldwin who steals every scene.

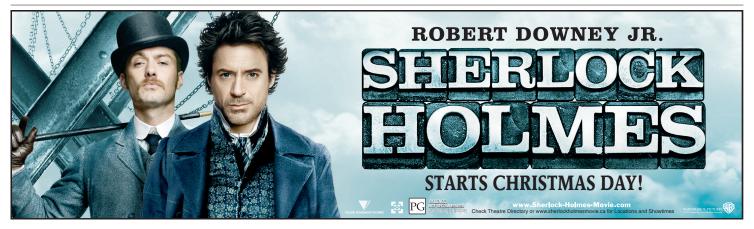
Baldwin has really come into his own as a comic actor in recent years as his burgeoning beer-belly and scotch n' cigars scarred voice began to overcome



Meryl Streep and Alec Baldwin star in It's Complicated.

his leading man looks. It's Complicated might be a little too familiar to be considered a great movie, but it is uncommonly mature for the genre and should

please the target audience. • For It's Complicated trailers, photos and screen times or to buy tickets visit metronews.ca/



GUSA TODAY

24 entertainment

Director goes back in time for Victoria

The Young Victoria

Director: Jean-Marc Vallee Stars: Emily Blunt, Rupert Friend

Classification: STC Rating: 🕮 🕮 🎚

ΔΡΔΜ ΝΑΥΜΑΝ

It's a bit disappointing that Quebecois director Jean-Marc Vallee chose to follow up his ecstatic 2005 debut C.R.A.Z.Y. with a Golden Age melodrama. Why would such an unruly, contemporary tal-ent willingly stuff himself into a period-piece corset?

That said, The Young Victoria, which stars Emily Blunt as the eponymous monarch and Řupert Friend as her ardent suitor Prince Albert, is perfectly acceptable filmmaking in the costume drama mode. As an examination of girlin-a-gilded-cage melancholy, it's far more affecting than last year's similar-



ly themed The Duchess (which seemed mostly like an excuse to dress Keira Knightley in a variety of fetching ensembles). Screenwriter Julian Fellowes frames the monarch not as an ascendant icon but a frustrated teenage girl, and it's no small compliment to say that the 26-year old Blunt comes off as credibly adolescent (including a few nicely played temper tantrums).

Vallee eschews the directorial pyrotechnics that

marked C.R.A.Z.Y., but still has some trouble finding an appropriately stately pace: The introductions of several major characters and their various roles in palace intrigue (most of it revolving around the 18year-old queen's ability to rule) feel rushed. Eventually, the film settles into a gauzy, romantic groove, building to a climax that feels emotionally authentic even as it plays rather fast and loose with the historical record.



GOLDEN GLOBE NOMINATIONS

WINNER!

THE MOVIE OF THE YEAR, THE MOVIE OF THE MOMENT.

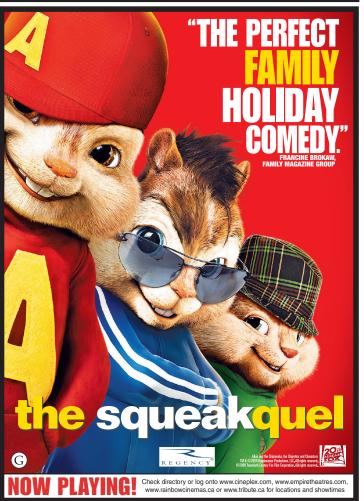
WINNER! BEST PICTURE

George Clooney

From the Director of "Juno"

TheUpInTheAirMovie.com

14^A COARSE



This week's new releases are highlighted in pink.

Screen Times

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., DEC. 25 TO THURS., JAN.1. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.



After much anticipation, Avatar was released last week to a strong box office response.

CITY CENTRE 9 CINEMAS 10200 102nd Ave., 780-421-7020

Avatar 3D (PG) No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12-1-4-5-8-0

Avatar 3D (PC) No Passes, Stadium Seating ri-Thu 12:4-45-89.

The Blind Side (PC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Sta-dium Seating Fir-Thu 65:0-9-5:0

Did You Hear About the Morgans? (PC)
No Passes, DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Fir-Thu
12:05-24:0-5:15-7-45-10:15

Invictus (STC) Stadium Seating, DTS Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fir-Thu 12:10-37:10-10:10

Mine (PC) Stadium Seating, DTS Digital, Fir-Thu
12:30-3:30-7:30-10:30

Sherlock Holmes (PG) No Passes, Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Thu 12:15-3:15-7-

The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) Sta dium Seating, DTS Digital Fri-Thu

Up in the Air (14A) Dolby Ster

Passes Fri-Thu 12-45 ital Fri-Thu 12:50-3:50 s Fri-Thu 12:45-3:25-7:20-10:20

CLAREVIEW 10 CINEMAS 4211 139th Ave., 780-472-7600

Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (G) No Passes Fri 3:50-4:40-7-9:20 No Passes Sat-Thu 12-1-2:20-3:50-4:40-7-9:20 Avatar 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 4:20-4:50-8-9 Sat-

Thu 12:45-1:15-4:20-4:50-8-9 **The Blind Side** (PG) Fri 6:35 Sat-Thu 12:30-

Did You Hear About the Morgans? (PG) No Passes Fri 4:30-7:20-9:50 Sat-Thu 1:50-4:30-

Invictus (STC) Fri 9:30 Sat-Thu 3:30-9:30 It's Complicated (14A) No Passes Fri 4:10-6:55-9:45 No Passes Sat-Thu 1:20-4:10-6:55-9:45 The Princess and the Frog (G) Fri 4-6:50-

9:10 Sat-Thu 1:30-4-6:50-9:10 Sherlock Holmes (PG) No Passes Fri 3:40-6:40-9:40 No Passes Sat-Thu 12:40-3:40-6:40-9 The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) Fri-Up in the Air (14A) No Passes Fri 4:25-7:15-

9:55 No Passes Sat-Thu 1:45-4:25-7:15-9:55

8712 - 109 St., 780-433-2212

(PG) Sat-Thu 2-6:45-9:15

MOVIES 12 5074 130 Ave., 780-472-9779

\$074 130 AVe., 780-472-9779
\$10151 P(0)174:15745 \$41 -4.157-4511:05
\$10174 11-415745
\$10184 P(0)174110 425-930
\$10184 P(0)17410 425-930
\$10184 P(0)17410 425-935
\$10195 P(0)174457-20-935
\$10195 P(0)174457-20-935
\$10195 P(0)17457-20-935
\$10195 P(0)

me nurt Locker (14A) Fri 4:05-6:55-9:45 Sat-Thu 1:10-4:05-6:55-9:45 Inglourious Basterds (18A) Fri 4:157-3:0 Sat 1-4:157-3:0-1:105 Sun-Thu 1-4:157-3:0 Law Abiding Citizen (18A) Fri 4:30-7:15-9:05 Sat 1:35-4:07:15-9:5:0

Pirate Radio (14A) Fri 6:50 Sat-Thu 1:20-6:50 Planet 51 (G) Fri 4:20-7-9:20 Sat 1:40-4:20-7 9:20-11:30 Sun-Thu 1:40-4:20-7-9:20

Rocket Singh: Salesman of the Year (PG) Fri 4:25-7:40 Sat-Thu 1:05-4:25-7:40 (FG) Fri 4:25-7:40 Sat-Tifu 1:05-4:25-7:40 Where the Wild Things Are (PG) Fri 4:35-7:10-9:25 Sat 1:30-4:35-7:10-9:25-11:50 Sun-Thu 1:30-4:35-7:10-9:25

Zombieland (18A) Fri 9:55 Sat 9:55-12:05 Sun-

NORTH EDMONTON **CINEMAS** 14231 137th Ave., 780-732-2236

2012 (PG) FriThu 8:45 Alvin and the Chipmunks: The 5queakquet (G) No Passes Fri 4:10-5:15-6:20-730-9:50 No Passes Sai-Thu 11:40-12:30-22:50-4:10-5:15-6:20-7:30-9:50 Avatar 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 3:15-4:30-7-8-10:30 No Passes Sai-Thu 11:45-13:15-4:30-7-8-10:30 No Passes Sai-Thu 11:45-13:15-15-15-1

The Blind Side (PG) Fri 6:40 Sat-Thu 12:20-0:40
Did You Hear About the Morgans? (PG)
Fri 4:40-7:50-10:20 Sat-Thu 1:30-4:40-7:50-10:20
Disney's A Christmas Carol (PG) Fri 4:156:55 Sat-Thu 11:30-1:50-4:15-6:55
Invictus (STG) Fri Thu 3:30-9:30

It's Complicated (14A) No Passes Fri 3:40-65;0-9:40 No Passes Sai-Thu 12:40-2;40-65;0-9:40 Nine (PG) No Passes Fri 3:10-63;0-9:20 No Passes Sai-Thu 12:30-63;0-9:20 No Passes Sai-Thu 12:30-10-63;0-9:20 No Passes Sai-Thu 10:30-10-63;0-9:20 No Passes Sai-Thu 10:30-2:0-4:50-7:20-9:45 Sai-Thu 11:50-2:20-4:50-7:20-9:45 Sai-Thu 11:50-2:20-4:50-7:20-9:45 Sai-Thu 11:50-2:0-4:20-6:45-7:40-9:55-10:40 No Passes Sai-Thu 12-110-3:20-2:0-6:45-7:40-9:55-10:40 No Passes Sai-Thu 12-110-3:20-2:0-6:45-7:40-9:55-10:40 No Passes Sai-Thu 12-110-3:20-7:15-10:10 Sai-Thu 12:50-3:50-7:15-10:10 Up in the Air (14A) No Passes Fri 47:10-10 No Passes Sai-Thu 12:0-47:10-10

PRINCESS I & II 10337 Whyte Ave., 780-433-0728

Precious: Based on the Novel "Push" by Sapphire (14A) Sat-Thu 2:30-6:50-9:10 The Young Victoria (PG) Sat-Thu 2-7-9:10

SCOTIABANK THEATRE WEST MALL

8882 170th St., 780-444-2400

8882 170th St., 780-444-2400
2012 (PG) Fri-Thu 2:30-6:30-10
Alvin and the Chipmunks: The
Squeakquel (G) No Passes fri-Thu 11:1011:50-140-22-041-04:50-640-92-10
Avatar 3D (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:42-45-5630-9-10:15
Avatar: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) No
Passes fri-Thu 11:45-31-57-10-30
Did You Hear About the Morgans? (PG)
Fri-Thu 13:30-440-75-01-040
Disney's A Christmas Carol (PG) Fri-Thu 12
Invictus (STC) Fri-Thu 7:15-10-20
Ifs Complicated (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu
12:50-350-659-950
Mine (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:45-345-645945

9:45
The Princess and the Frog (G) Fri-Thu
11:30-2-4:30-7:10-9:40
Sherlock Holmes (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30-47:40-10:45

Thu 12:30-4-7:40-10:45 **Up in the Air** (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:15-4:20-7:30-10:10

SOUTH EDMONTON COMMON

m.metrenews.ca



on your smartphone. Learn how to scan the barcode with the instructions at the top of pg 3

1525 99th St., 780-436-8585

Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (c) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:30-12:15-2:245+430-5:15-65:09-9:20 Avatar 3D (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:15-12-13:15-45-78-9:30-10:30 The Blind Side (PG) Fri-Thu 12:10-3:25-6:40-16:15

10:15 Did You Hear About the Morgans? (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:50-6:35-9:10 Disney's A Christmas Carol (PG) Fri-Thu 12:20-3:20-6:45 The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus

12:203-20-645
The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus
(PG) Firilhu 12:45;4:10-745-10:45
Invictus (SIC) Firilhu 73:5-10:35
It's Complicated (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu
11:50-3:40-63-0-9:15
Nine (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:15-4-6:50-9:45
Olid Dogs (G) Fri-Thu 9:40
The Princess and the Frog (G) Fri-Thu
11:55-2:20-4:50-7:20-9:55
Sherlock Holmes (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu
11:45-12:30-3-41:5-645-7:30-10-11
The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) Fri-Thu
11:230-3:45-7:10-10:10
Up in the Air (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:25-420-7:15-10-01

TELUS WORLD OF SCIENCE Edmonton Space And Science Centre,

1121-142 St., 780-451-3344

India: Kingdom of the Tiger (STC) Sat 3-5-

7 Sun-Wed 3-5 Thu 3 **The Light Before Christmas** (STC) Sat-Thu

WESTMOUNT CENTRE 111 Ave. & Groat Rd., 403-455-8726

111 Ave. & Groat Rd., 403-455-8726

Alvin and the Chipmunks: The

Squeakquel (c) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes
1617 05-925 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes
1617 05-925 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes
1617 101-153-357-05-925
Did You Hear About the Morgans? (PC)
DTS Digital, No Passes 1617-15-1005 DTS Digital,
No Passes Sat-Sun 1-4-05-71-5-1005 DTS Digital,
No Passes Sat-Sun 1-4-05-71-5-1005

It's Complicated (14A) DTS Digital, No Passes
161-635-9-40 TS Digital, No Passes
161-635-9-40 TS Digital, No Passes
161-50-9-55 Dolby Stereo Digital, No
Passes Sat-Thu 12-43-55-0-60-9-55

GRADIN THE ATTERS

GRADIN THE ATTERS

GRANDIN THEATRES

101-22 Sir Winston Churchill Ave.. St. Albert, 780-458-9822

Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (G) Fri-Wed 1:15-3:20-5:05-7-8:55

Squeakquet (b) rinnes. Thu 1:15-3:20 **Avatar** (PG) Fri-Wed 12:40-3:30-6:20-9:15 Thu

plicated (14A) Fri-Wed 12:45-2:55-

TS Computated (144) Fri-wed 12:45-2:55-5:10-7:20-9:35 Thu 12:45-2:55 The Princess and the Frog (G) Fri-Wed 1-3-4:55-6:50-8:40 Thu 1-3 Sherlock Holmes (PG) Fri-Wed 1:30-4:05-7:10-9:40 Thu 1:30-4:05

GALAXY CINEMAS SHERWOOD PARK 2020 Sherwood Dr., Sherwood Park 780-416-0152

d the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (G) No Passes Fri 4:45-7:10-9:30 No Passes Sat-Thu 12-2:35-4:45-7:10-9:30 Avatar (PG) No Passes Fri 4:30-8:15 No Passes

Sat-Thu 1-4;30-8:15
Avatar 2D (PG) No Passes Fri 3:15;7-10:30 No
Passes Sat-Thu 1:145;3-15;7-10:30
The Blind Side (PG) Fri 6:50 Sat-Thu 1:20-6:50
Did You Hear About the Morgans? (PG)
Fri 4:10-72-20:1010 Sat-Thu 1:10-110;7-220:1010
Invictus (STC) Fri-Thu 4:9-30
It's Complicated (1:A4) No Passes Fri 4:20-7;40-10:30 No Passes Sat-Thu 1:30-4:20-7;40-10:30

Nine (PG) No Passes Fri 4:15-7:15-10 No Passes

The Princess and the Frog (G) Fri 6:45-9:15 Sat-Thu 12:20-2:45-6:45-9:15 Sherlock Holmes (PG) No Passes Fri 3:30-7:30-10:20 No Passes Sat-Thu 12:15-3:30-7:30-

Up in the Air (14A) No Passes Fri 3:45-7:45-10:15 No Passes Sat-Thu 12:30-3:45-7:45-10:15

PARKLAND CINEMA

130 Century Crossing, Spruce Grove

780-962-2332

Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (G) Sat-Wed 12:50-3-6:50-9 Thu 12:50-3-6:50 Avatar (PG) Sat-Wed 2-6:30-9:45 Thu 2-6:30 Did You Hear About the Morgans? (PG) Sat-Wed 10:93-6:50-9:05 Thu 10:59:30-6:50 It's Complicated (14A) Sat-Wed 1-3:20-7-9:20

Thu 1-3:20-7
The Princess and the Frog (G) Sat-Wed 1-

3:157-9:15 Thu 1-3:157 Sherlock Holmes (PG) Sat-Wed 12:45-3:25-645-9:25 Thu 12:45-3:25-645 Up in the Air (14A) Sat-Wed 1:10-3:30-7:10-9:30 Thu 1:10-3:30-7:10

LEDUC CINEMAS

4702 50th St., Leduc 780-986-2728

Listings not available at press time.







MORGAN FREEMAN MATT DAMON





NOW PLAYING! www.InvictusMovie.com





Longoria launches fragrance

Eva Longoria is to launch her own fragrance. The Desperate Housewives actress has created a new scent with Falic Fashion

Group and was keen to make something wearable and not overpowering. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Fun from start to finish

Robert Downey Jr. and Jude Law are perfect together in Sherlock Holmes

Sherlock **Holmes**

Director: Guy Ritchie
Stars: Robert Downey Jr.,
Jude Law
Classification: PG

NED EHRBAR for Metro Canada

Rating: @@@@

REVIEW Guy Ritchie's risky re-imagining of literature's most famous detective definitely pays off well, thanks in most part to the sheer force of charisma that is Robert Downey Jr.

As he proved earlier this year in the middling The Soloist, Downey can be great even when the movie around him fails to perform. Luckily, in Sherlock Holmes he doesn't have to.

have to.

The film takes all the strokes of genius and superhuman deductive skills usually attributed to Holmes and adds the psychological shortcomings that would naturally go

with them. He can't venture out into public without obsessively clocking every odd behavior of his fellow Londoners.

Downey portrays all of this splendidly, as unhinged is one of his better

But Holmes is nothing without Watson, and under Ritchie's direction, Jude Law is better than he's been in years. The two are perfect together, stirring up enough chemistry to make Watson's fiancée (Kelly Reilly) feel like an unwanted distraction.

Unfortunately, most of Holmes' ticks are abandoned for the second half, when they get down to the business of unraveling the case at hand, the mysterious resurrection of convicted murderer Lord Blackwood (the menacing Mark Strong).

There are plenty of elaborate action sequences set throughout the grey, muddy, under-construction London, but all the loose



Robert Downey Jr., left, and Jude Law stir up plenty of chemistry in Sherlock Holmes.

ends tie up a bit too neatly in the end — except for those needed to tease a sequel. It's absolute fun from start to finish, but it would be nice if so much of the fun weren't frontloaded. • For Sherlock Holmes photos, a trailer and screen times — or to buy tickets visit metronews.ca/movies.

Auction to sell Cher's home

PEOPLE Cher's six-bedroom Hawaii home overlooking the Pacific Ocean is set to be auctioned Jan. 18.

Concierge Auctions estimated the property with views of the Hualalai Golf Course at \$8 million to \$12 million US.

A website set up for the sale says the property has a main residence and five freestanding bungalows totalling 8,821 square feet (819 square meters). Four have bedroom suites, and the fifth is a media bungalow with a bar.

Cosby to receive special award

PRIZE Bill Cosby will be the next recipient of the Marian Anderson Award.

He is to accept the award and \$100,000 prize April 6 at the Kimmel Center in Philadelphia.

The comedian, actor and educator is being honoured for his cultural impact as well as his work in encouraging academic achievement and calling for accountability in the black community.

It honours artists whose leadership benefits society. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Musical fails to make jump to big screen

Nine

Director: Rob Marshall
Stars: Daniel Day-Lewis,
Penelope Cruz
Classification: PG
Rating: ##½

STEVE GOW for Metro Canada

REVIEW Based on a musical (which itself was based on Federico Fellini's classic film 8 ½), Nine marks director Rob Marshall's second attempt to turn a lavish stage show into a bigscreen showstopper.

Well why not? After all,

he found success with Chicago (which won the Best Picture Oscar in 2003) but unfortunately this Italian-set noodle only ends up al dente.

Daniel Day Lewis plays an admired filmmaker in the 1960s that flees Rome and the set of his latest picture at the outset of a midlife crisis. Paralyzed by a creative deadlock, his quandary is reflected in fantasy sequences as the auteur encounters the women in his life — his enduring wife (Marion Cotillard), mistress (Penelope Cruz), mother (Sophia Loren) and others

played by the likes of Nicole Kidman and Kate Hudson.

While a song notably accompanies each female's appearance (and surprisingly, the cast can carry a tune) and is intended to reveal the filmmaker's internal struggle, most of the arrangements are still simply unremarkable with the possible exception of Be Italian, the movie's signature song (performed by Fergie of the Black Eyed Peas).

Marshall helps to compensate with a slick production, opulent sequences and a recurring chorus of scantily-clad dancers but without some fetching songs to support it, Nine does not add up to a momentous musical.

While a scrawny storyline only adds to the film's lack of luster, fans of musicals that are willing to accept the film for its surface glitter may be thrilled. For the rest of us

... well, rent 8 ½ on DVD over the holidays to see what goes much better without singing.

• For Nine photos, a trailer and screen times — or to buy tickets — visit us online at

metronews.ca/movies



Nine marks director Rob Marshall's second attempt to turn a lavish stage show into a big-screen showstopper.



entertainment 27

Metro picks Canada's best in music

GRAHAM ROCKINGHAM

This list should probably include albums like The Fame Monster by Lady Gaga (even if her tracks sounds like ABBA retreads, it's about time somebody injected shock back into pop) and Blueprint 3 by Jay-Z (Empire State of mind is classy stuff, Yankees' fan or not). But it won't. There's always enough worthy Canadian music to promote without having to venture south or overseas. So this list of the best in music is entirely

1. THE ARKELLS, JACKSON SQUARE (DINE ALONE): This al-

bum was acreleased late in 2008, but few paid at-

home grown.



til this year when the singles Oh the Boss is Coming and The Ballad of Hugo Chavez made the rock airways. This is an extraordinary debut album by the Hamilton-based band that merges catchy, high-energy hooks with intelligent lyrics. Tracks like Champagne Socialist and John Lennon in 67 leave the Arkells a cut above everyone else right now. And a year of steady touring has forged a fiery live act that will win over any audience.

ALEXISONFIRE, OLD CROWS/YOUNG CARDINALS (DINE ALONE): Alexisonfire had already demonstrated strong instrumental chops and a strong sense of lyrical purpose. All it needed was to tone down the screamo vocals and delve



rock roots. They did all and more their fourth album. It all comes togeth-

their

er on tracks like The Northern, where the band incorporates the gospel standard Roll Jordan Roll into the chorus, and Emerald Street, where George Pettit shows a journalist's eye for composition LEE HARVEY OSMOND. QUI-

ET EVIL (LATENT): A collective effort that with representation from the Cowboy Junkies, the Skydiggers,

Iunkhouse that sprang Michael **Timmins** project



musically chronicle the assassination of JFK. The group accomplishes the task in brilliant form in the track, Parkland, named



Metro music reviewing veteran Graham Rockingham picks The Arkells' Jackson Square as one of the best Canadian albums of

after the Dallas hospital in which the president was pronounced dead. Frontman Tom Wilson describes this deeply dark, sometimes frightening, music as "acid folk." It fits.

METRIC, FANTASIES (MET-MUSIC): This album would make the list simply for asking the "would you rather be The Beatles or the Rolling Stones?" But there are 10 solid tracks on

including Alive. Emily Haines songwriting

this album.

keeps getting stronger. It's difficult to understand how this album didn't win the Polaris Prize. Metric, it seems, has become too popular for the indie-addled judges

TRAGICALLY HIP, WE ARE THE SAME (UNIVERSAL): We should never take this band for granted. After more than 20 years of recording the truest form of Canadian rock in existence, the Hip pulls togeth-



er one of their most ambitious projects to And all of the

tracks on this release fit in comfortably with the rest

of the band's catalogue.

BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI

With just a couple weeks left in the year, every music fan is likely busy compiling a list of the decade's best records. But we can't forget how good 2009 has been. There was Sonic Youth's infectious The Eternal, La Roux's electro pop debut, Grizzly Bear's harmony laden folk on Veckatimst and the list goes on. **But five Canadian records** really stood out. Not only are these better than much of the international albums that hit shelves, but they've outshone all of the incredible talent coming out of the Great White North.

JOEL PLASKETT THREE (MAPLEMUSIC/UNIVERSAL): This seminal East Coast rocker has created a lot of good music

years, but Three is easily his most ambitious effort yet. It should have been a mess a triple disc, song effort has a lot of potential to Joel go wrong — Plaskett



but nearly every track here is as inspiring as the next. Partnering with Rose Cousins and Ana Egge, who provid-

ed stunning harmonies,

was genius, while the infectious folk melodies are classic Plas-

kett. 2. ALEXISON-

FIRE. OLD

CROWS/YOUNG CARDINALS (DINE ALONE): I've never liked Alexisonfire. Their aggressive yells and uneven songwriting didn't do much for me - that is until I heard their fourth disc Old Crows/Young Cardinals. On this record the group has, without question, found their voice. They've discovered the perbalance between George Pettit's loud, guttural yells and Dallas Green's soaring melodic vocals. The songs are incredibly contagious, especially single Young Cardinals

3. CHARLES SPEARIN THE HAPPI-PROJECT (ARTS

CRAFTS/EMI): You know Charles Spearin the multi-instrumental-



ist from Do May Say Think and Broken Social Scene, but the artist's most inventive work has to be The Happiness Project. On this record, Spearin interviewed people from his community and set their words to sounds. Horn blasts follow a woman's natural talking melodies on the track Mrs. Morris, while a jazz band plays around with a little girl's

perimental and accessible, but better yet it's passionate, inspiring and a beautiful ode to Spearin's neighbourhood.

4. HANDSOME FURS FACE CON-(SUB POP/OUTSIDE): Wolf Parade is one of the more popular indie acts to



Canada, but it's members' side projthat ects

should be front and centre. Handsome Furs is the brainchild of Wolf Parade's guitarist Dan Boeckner and his wife Alexei Perry - and the buzz is definitely competing with his other group. The duo's second disc is a gorgeous collection of gritty synth-heavy rock.

Κ'ΝΔΔΝ TROUBADOR (A&M/UNIVERSAL): Canadians have known about K'naan — the Somaliaborn, Toronto-based rapper — since his fantastic

debut in 2006. But, it was this vear that the rest of the world fi-



discovered Keinan nally Abdi Warsame. That's thanks to his incredible sophomore record Troubador - which blends hiphop, rock, R&B and everything else. It's filled with catchy hooks, but it's the subject matter on songs like Fatima, that makes this a memorable effort.



To advertise contact Yvonne Markey at 780-701-0347

realstar management

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

PARK SQUARE APARTMENTS 10001 BELLAMY HILL

1+den & 2bd air conditioned suites with in-suite laundry, and modern décor. Heat and water included, fitness facility. Convenient downtown living!

780-423-3540 | www.realstar.ca



GARNEAU TOWERS APARTMENTS 8510-111TH STREET | EDMONTON, AB CALL NOW: 780 • 432 • 1894

\$500 OFF YOUR SECURITY DEPOSIT

Bachelors from \$929 One Bedrooms from \$1049

One block to University of Alberta

Amenities at your doorstep

• Ten minutes away from downtown • Minutes away from Whyte Avenue





28 entertainment

With the help of a surrogate, soap star Michelle Stafford has become a mom. The Young and the Restless star welcomed daughter Natalia Scout Lee on Monday, her rep tells People. POPEATER.COM



Mary J. Blige says performing her hits is like therapy.

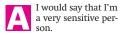
Blige talks about being a crybaby

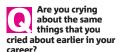
Mary J. Blige, who is known as the "queen of hip-hop soul," says she's kept her lofty title because she stays in tune with what younger audiences want to hear.

In a recent interview, Blige — who has won nine Grammy Awards since her debut in 1992 - talked about R&B music, recording a jazz album - and being a crybaby.

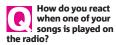


Would you say that you're a sensitive





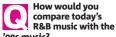
I think I cry about different things different now. I cry because I want to be better than this. I want to continue to grow so, you know, I have to give myself a break. I'm my worst critic. I'm the hardest person on me. I've been like that forever, but I've just learned to give myself a break so even now when I slip ... I don't want to hurt anyone. And I cry when I hurt people un-



If I hear one of my old songs like Not Gon' Cry or My Life the My Life album just always makes me stop and just cry, like just bawl. So call me a crybaby, whatevsometimes it's just that

Is it hard to perform those emotional songs when, at this point, you're in a different place?

For me performing Not Gon' Cry and I'm Goin' Down and My Life — it's like therapy again. I just love the way it makes me feel at the mo-ment and get it out of my system, you know. Those hurtful places and sometimes you got to revisit for the sake of other peo-



Can I say '80s, too? There is no comparison because the music in the '90s and the '80s was just like, music. You had Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis who were on the radio. Michael Jackson and Quincy Jones everywhere, all over the place. Anita Baker, just so many amazing people. ... I'm not saying the music isn't beautiful now. It's just such a ... it's limited



How do you think your fashion style has evolved?

I mean I've had disasters, some trials, some errors, some disastrous hair moments and clothing moments, but that's due to the insecurity in me and not knowing what works for

Cameron appeals to Chinese film industry

MOVIES Hollywood director James Cameron urged China to open its doors to more foreign films, arguing it would boost the local cinema industry after the WTO ruled Beijing was illegally restricting movie and other media imports.

In Beijing to promote his breakneck economic growth meant it no longer needed measures to protect its film indus-

latest sci-fi extravaganza, Avatar, Cameron said Wednesday that China's

The Chinese government protects local films by limiting the number film expanding verv. very rapidly. And I think the

makers are very strong ...

they're highly respected."

feeling right now is that ports on a revenue-sharing perhaps it doesn't need to basis to 20 a year, a quota that effectively limits Holbe protecting itself quite as much," Cameron, the dilywood blockbusters to 20 rector of blockbusters that slots annually. include Terminator 2: Judgment Day and Titanic, told reporters. "Chinese film-

tions have been a key com-plaint by Western countries, who say that China's rapid rise as a trade power has been in part aided by unfair policies that boost sales of Chinese goods abroad while limiting im-

These and other restricports into its market. "I think that by opening



James Cameron

dustry in China," Cameron said. "It will get people more excited, there will be more seats, more cinemas, more excitement about the cinema-going experience, which will also raise the Chinese filmmakers' ability to play their films."

On Monday, a World Trade Organization panel upheld a ruling in a case brought by the U.S. government that China was obstructing trade by forcing foreign suppliers to distribute movies, music and books through stateowned companies.

China expressed disappointment at the decision but gave no immediate sign whether it could keep trying to defend the controls.

The WTO case focused on complaints by groups representing music labels such as EMI and Sony Music Entertainment, publishers including McGraw Hill and Simon&Schuster and Hollywood studios Warner Bros., Disney, Paramount, Universal and 20th Century Fox. The groups say the Chinese rules cost them tens of millions of dollars each year in lost business opportunities.

China's box office is booming, but still comparatively small compared to the U.S. market. Government statistics show that revenues surged from 920 million yuan in 2003 to 4.3 billion yuan (\$630 million) in 2008 — compared to \$9.8 billion in the U.S. last THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Lewd messages land rapper conviction

COURTS A would-be rapper was convicted Tuesday of harassing Ashanti's mother with a flurry of dirty photos and lewd text mes-sages about the Grammy Award-winning R&B star. Devar Hurd shook his

head as a Manhattan jury delivered its verdict after two days of deliberations, finding him guilty of stalking and aggravated harassment for messages the singer's mother called THE ASSOCIATED PRESS | scary and disgusting.

Hurd, a sometime model and car salesman from Griffith, Indiana, said he thought the crude messages, photos of his geni-tals and a picture of the home where Ashanti's family lives were welcome.

The 31-year-old is being held without bail until his sentencing, set for Jan. 11. He faces up to two years in prison. His lawyer, Richard Verchick, left court without speaking to reporters and didn't immediately return a phone call afterward.

Ashanti's mother, Tina Douglas, told jurors she didn't know Hurd when he began calling her and leaving messages recounting bizarre and rambling sexual fantasies about the singer. Douglas manages her daughter's multiplatinum-selling career.

Douglas said she told Hurd to leave her alone but he went on to send dozens of revolting text

messages and pictures. "It was just disgusting and humiliating and ex-

tremely frightening," Douglas testified, adding that she pulled Ashanti out of a rehearsal of The Wiz after Hurd sent a message that mentioned seeing the singer's car outside the theatre.

Ashanti starred Dorothy in an off-Broadway revival of the musical this summer.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Green, Eggs and Ham

Find unusual heritage vegetables, free-range chicken and duck at Greens, Eggs and Ham. Andreas, Mary Ellen and their daughters Ariana and Megan work the 10-acre mixed family farm in Leduc County, marketing their products to high end restaurants and several retail outlets. 780-986-8680 -CHRISTOPHER THRALL

entertainment 29

Urban Foodie

●●● INSPIRED; ●●●● VERY GOOD; ●●● PALATABLE; ●● HO-HUM; ● NEVER AGAIN

Chianti better than you remember

CHRISTOPHER THRALL EdmontonUrbanFoodie@amail.com

Chianti Café

10501-82 Avenue 780-439-9829 chianticafe.ca

Signature Dish: Penne Alla Campesino (\$12.99) Dinner & drinks for 2: \$50

I can't remember a time when the old post office building on Whyte Avenue Café. For high school dates or a pack of pals, the spot featured low prices, tasty fare and an unpretentious atmosphere. More than a decade later, with wife and three daughters in tow, I was back for Round 2.

I savoured the smooth, liquid lemon gumdrop flavour of my limoncello on the rocks (\$5.49) and admired the restaurant. It was as comfortable and friendly as I remembered it I was hard pressed to find a dish

в s

On the web

 Get recipes and more great food content at metronews.ca/recipes

priced higher than \$13 and I was very happy with my gnocchi della nonna (\$11.99): the potato pasta itself was a bit soft, but the tangy meat sauce was a delight under a layer of ricotta.

I finished with a slice of Bernard Callebaut chocolate ganache, layered with crust (\$5.99). Despite the rich, luscious dark chocolate and tart berries, the dessert was eclipsed by the combination of that Oreo cookie crust smothered in real whipped cream.

Sure, the prices were still low and the fare was still tasty, but the atmosphere is what did it for me. The people are genuinely warm, the decor is cheerful and Chianti is exactly the way vou remember it maybe just a bit better.



Gnocchi della nonna in a thick meat and mushroom sauce (\$11.99).

Global Peasant blog online

- Travel along with Diane Thompson's culinary adventures in her Global Peasant blog.
- Check out metronews.ca/ alobalpeasant for a recipe of Brown Rice Salmon Sushi!



Dining out

SCOTCH, WINE, FOOD Kevin Ostapek opened a Scottish pub featuring scotch (almost 100), wine (more than 100) and food. Those who have seen the menu claim an abundance of pies, soups, sandwiches and sharing plates. Don't miss the haggis tasting on Jan. 18 to kick off the Robbie Burns celebration! 5482 Calgary Trail, 780-761-1761.

CHOCOLATE Dennis Yurkiwsky of Chocolate Exquisite has a secret. The chocolatier not only crafts an entire shopful of sinful delights, but hosts tasting nights as well! Sample 20 different chocolates from around the world, accompanied by a port and four dessert wines. Visit chocolateexquisite.com or call

780-488-7852 for details.

-CHRISTOPHER THRALL

In **brief**

SHOPPING Ann Liske's baking was so popular that she thought they could actually sell it. After 26 years, the Fife 'n' Dekel empire continues to supply some of the best sandwiches and baked goods in the city. If you live or work within 30 blocks of any of the three locations, you are intimately familiar with the raisin pie and the turkey sandwich with cranberry sauce. Fifendekel.com

-CHRISTOPHER THRALL

Cleaner Wanted \$13.98 per hour

Fax resume to 780.483.8184

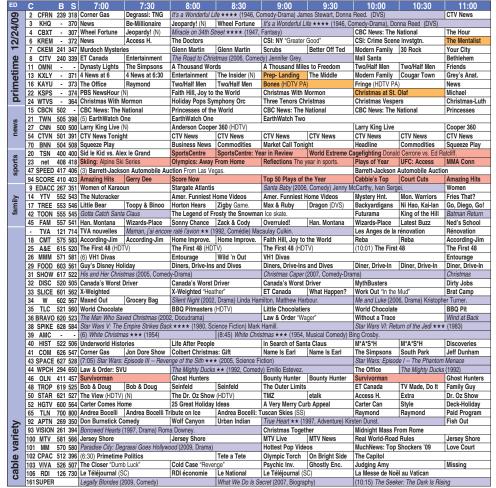
Jan Dan Custodial 17640-96 Ave Edmonton, AB

The gift your iPhone wants to see under the tree (and it's free!)





No problem, visit m.metronews.ca for news on the move



critics'corner—

In this 1947 classic, Edmund Gwenn stars as a Macy's Santa who gets into trouble when he claims he's the real Kriss Krin-gle. In a city full of impostors, he finds no one — not even a little girl (Natalie Wood) — willing to believe in him. With skeptics ridiculing him at every turn, Kringle has no choice but to take his case to court. Only one young lawyer has enough faith to defend him. Maureen O'Hara and John Payne also star in the Academy Award winner. 8 PM on CBXT



It's a Wonderful Life You know the story: Small-town guy George Bailey defers one big dream after another to stay home, marry local girl and run family business. Facing financial ruin, he's pulled from suicidal despair by an angel who shows him what a terrible place the world would be if he'd never lived. Hey, his small life made a pretty big impact after all! James Stewart, Donna Reed and Lionel Barrymore star, with Henry Travers as the angel whose work with George earns him a promo-tion. 8 PM on CFRN

30 entertainment



Jennifer Hudson is pregnant with her second child just four months after giving birth to baby son David Jr., according to U.S. tabloid reports. She and her fiancé David Otunga discovered the happy news on Dec. 10, according to Star magazine. METRO WORLD NEWS

Celebrity Buzz

Winehouse tantrum infuriates dad

Winehouse is furious with Amy over her alleged theattack. femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The 58-year-old taxi driver is very unhappy with his daughter, who was hauled into Bethnal Green police station in London yesterday to be questioned about the incident at a pan-tomime — a traditional musical comedy production, typically performed around Christmas — in Milton Keynes last week.

A source said: "I've never seen Mitch this angry, he is

seething. He can't believe Amy would act so stupid-

The 26-year-old singer re-portedly shocked theatregoers when she hurled abuse at the cast of Cinderella, allegedly kicked and punched the front of house manager, and spent more than half an hour of the first act yelling exple-

Winehouse - who was thought to have been drinking — was eventually dragged out of the theatre by her security staff. Mitch blames Blake Fielder-Civil,

the singer's ex-husband who she recently reconciled with, for her wild behaviour

A source told the Daily Star newspaper: "Her ďad thinks her current behaviour is due to spending time with Blake

"After just one day in Blake's presence, Amy reverted back to her wild ways. Amy had really changed over few last months and was getting her life back on track."



Murphy's death raises drug speculations

Hudson may become a mother once again

THE PLOT THICKENS As the details of Brittany Murphy's are sorted out, some doctors are speculating that a combination of prescription drugs was behind the actress' heart attack earlier this week. "When you have a 32-year-old per-son dying suddenly, and especially a celebrity in Los Angeles, you can place

your bet down that it's going prove to be a case of acute combined drug toxicity," Dr. Cyril Wecht tells the CBS Early Show. Meanwhile, Murphy's husband, Simon Monjack, was apparently left out of her will, as she wrote it before they were married, according to E! "She left News. everything to her mother," a source

savs.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Summer wedding bells for Britney?

JUST REMEMBER WHAT HAP PENED LAST TIME YOU **PROPOSED, BRIT** Britney Spears has been touring Beverly Hills jewelry stores shopping for engagement rings — only her boyfriend, Justin Trawick, doesn't know about it, according to In Touch Weekly. "Britney is ready to marry Jason," a source says "She wants to be with him 24/7." The source adds that Spears is hoping for a



Jake mourns broken heart with guy pals

FAKE RELATIONSHIP BILLES

Jake Gyllenhaal is licking his wounds after his split from Reese Witherspoon by reportedly vacationing with pals at the Post Ranch Inn in Big Sur, Calif., the very spot he planned to propose to his ex, according to Popeater.

'It's so sad watching his friends try to cheer him up in the infinity pool when you know it was Reese that

was supposed to be next to him wearing a diamond ring," a source savs.

Cowell set to bid Idol farewell?

NOW THOUSANDS OF CHIL-DREN WON'T GET THE CHANCE TO HAVE THEIR DREAMS **CRUSHED** Simon Cowell is set to leave American Idol behind, if his loose-lipped brother has anything to say about it. Tony Cowell, who produces a podcast called The Cowell Factor, recently dished on his brother's plans.

press statement is being prepared which will confirm what everybody expected, Tony says, "Simon will leave Idol at the end of 2010 to concentrate on bring-



Beyonce and Jay-Z try each other's names on for size

SAY MY NAME... OK, AND HIS Beyonce Knowles and Jay-Z are to change their names, fe-malefirst.co.uk reports. The couple, who married in April 2008, are to take on both of their respective surnames in order to keep the singer's parental line from dying out.

Jay-Z — whose real name is Shawn Carter - will now be known as Shawn Knowles-Carter, while Beyonce is to become Beyonce Knowles-Carter

A source told the Daily newspaper: "They

want to keep Knowles because Beyonce's parents didn't have any sons and they're keen to keep the name going strong, especially if they don't produce any children themselves."

Earlier this week the Knowles family suffered a blow when was

nounced that Beyonce's parents Tina and Mathew would be divorcing after 29 years of marriage

In October, rumours surfaced that Mathew may have been unfaithful,

with a paternity suit filed by Alexandra Wright claiming he was the father of her unborn child allegation has denied.

SERVICES

Aerosmith singer enters rehab

NO CHRISTMAS VACATION FOR HIM Aerosmith front-man Steven Tyler has entered rehab for painkiller addiction, he announced in a statement this week, after a difficult period that saw him quit the band, and then join them again in a bizarre media drama. "I love Aerosmith; I love performing as the

of the supand port love I am receiving committed getlead singer in Aero-smith. I am grateful for all

things taken care of," the 61-year-old singer says.

The doctor Tyler has been working with says that performance-related injuries from the past decade have left Tyler with chronic pain, and he will most likely need surgery on his feet and knees.

> METRO WORLD

Freeman's jet set Christmas

MILE HIGH CLUB Avid pilot Morgan Freeman bought himself a new plane for Christmas. The

actor purchased an SJ30, said to be "the world's fastest, longestrange and highest-flying light from

Emivest, an investment firm in Dubai, according to Gulf News The official price tag for

the jet has not been released, but it is said that Freeman bought it for about \$7 million US. Freeman and his niece will be flying the jet to Dubai, where they will spend Christmas.

> METRO WORLD

Kendra excited to make holidavs special for baby

INTERESTING HOUSEHOLD Kendra Wilkinson can't

wait to start her own "family traditions" now she is a wife and mother, femalefirst.co.uk says.

The reality TV star and former Playboy playmate is gearing up for the festive season and hopes to make the holiday as wonderful for her husband Hank Baskett and newborn son Henry Randall Baskett IV as her mother did when she was vounger.

Kendra, 24, tweeted: "I can't wait to start my own family traditions and I'm so excited to make every

Christmas memorable for little Hank like my mom did for

SERVICES

Celebrity tweets

Sean Combs keeps it clean, Stephen Fry is disconnecting for the holidays, Diablo Cody knows how to keep herself motivated, and John Mayer is very strict about Christmas

songs.

@iamdiddy Takin a bath. Its a nightly ritual! Its like getting baptized!!!

@stephenfry Far away from London now.

Christmas has started. No phone reception. Hesitant internet. Cut off from the world for a week. Makes me happy.

@diablocody I listen to "Maniac" from Flashdance all the time. It makes me type really fast

<mark>@johncmayer I</mark> don't care what anyone says, holiday music was made to be





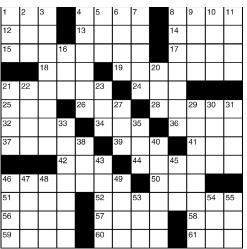






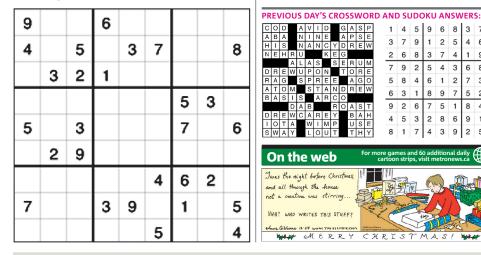
entertainment 31

Take Five



Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone - one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.



1 Org. that caught Dillinger 4 Carpet type 8 Criticism 12 Bradstreet partner 13 Franc replacement 14 Lasso 15 Helped 17 Do as you're told 18 Greek mountain

19 Cunning 21 Buxom 24 Nevertheless

25 Illustrations 26 Conger, e.g. 28 Bottom point 32 On in years 34 Victory 36 — Strauss

jeans 37 Groucho's "tattooed lady" 39 .Spacecraft compartment 41 Enervate 42 Energy 44 Kind of

inspiration 46 Do anew 50 Petrol 51 Finished 52 Withstood 56 Catchall abbr.

57 Pace 58 Blunder 59 Otherwise 60 Small salamanders 61 Rotation

duration

1 Med. watchdog 2 Clear the tables 3 Put one's foot down

4 Elmo's street 5 Shack 6 Belligerent Olympian

7 Devout 8 Direct, as an attack 9 Earring site

10 Tarzan's clique

3 7 9 2 5 4 6

9

4 5 3 2 8 6 9 1 7

6 8

8 4 6 1 2

3 8 9

2 6 7 5 8 4

2 5 9

11 Singer Alicia 16 Altar affirmative 20 Longing

21 Canaanite idol 22 Excessive revelry 23 Evergreen type 27 Back talk

29 Stopped 30 Terrible guy?

31 Mature 33 Tie breaker? 35 Affirmative action

40 0 through 9 43 Combine 45 Anatomical

38 Help

duct 46 "When in —

47 Satan's specialty 48 Disarray 49 Canadian flag

symbol

1 4 5 9 6 8 3 7 2

4 3 6 8

4

3

9

3

5

53 Perch 54 Historic time 55 Parched

Metro Recipe of the Day

Lemon Garlic Mussels

Submitted by: Tammy Roy, St. Thomas,

INGREDIENTS:

-2 Tablespoon olive oil -1 Cup vidalia onion diced

-1 chili pepper, sliced in half

-1 bay leaf

-8 Clove garlic, minced -1 Tablespoon fresh pars-

-1 Tablespoon tarragon, rough chopped

-1 Tablespoon oregano, rough chopped

-1 Tablespoon thyme, rough chopped

-1 lemon, juice of -1/2 Cup white wine -2 1/2 Pound mussels, scrubbed and discard any that are not alive

-3 Tablespoon butter -fresh herbs (to garnish) -sliced lemon (to garnish)

METHOD:

1. Pour olive oil to cover bottom of a large pan. 2. Add onions, chili pepper and garlic - saute until translucent. 3. Add herbs, lemon and

4. Add mussels - cover and steam for 5 minutes until all are opened.

5. Remove mussels to a large bowl.

6. Keeping the juice in the pan, whisk in the butter and pour over the mussels.

7. Garnish with herbs and lemon.

SERVES 4 PREP TIME: 15 MINUTES COOK TIME: 10 MINUTES



20 Minute Supper Club helps you get dinner ready in a snap. Sign up for quick and delicious recipes, cooking and food tips. It's free at 20minute supperclub.com

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES MARCH 21-APRIL 20

Just because it's the holiday season does not mean you should give up on your efforts to impress employers and other important people.

LIBRA **SEPT 23-OCT 23**

You will have to deal with someone you would prefer to avoid, someone whose attitude you find difficult to take.

TAURUS

With Pluto power on your side there is nothing you cannot do or possess. The only danger is you might be a bit too imperi-

SCORPIO OCT 24-NOV 22

You will be extraordinarily generous today but make sure it is only your friends who benefit from your munificence.

GEMINI MAY 22-JUNE 21

On the web

and all through the house

creature was stirri

MERRY

Look in the mirror and be honest about what you see. Everyone has faults, but not everyone has the ability to recognize ous and turn off people. them

SAGITTARIUS NOV 23-DEC 21

You don't have to ask anyone's permission to make the major changes that you desire. On the contrary, they'll work out if you seize the initiative

CANCER

JUNE 22-JULY 22 It may be the case that you are expected to do something today that goes against the grain, that compromises your values. Value your principles.

CAPRICORN

DEC 22-JAN 20 Your confidence will go through the roof between now and the new year. You'll feel as if you could take on the world and win - and you can.

LEO JULY 23-AUG 23

The planets indicate you have been working too hard and need a rest, but you are unlikely to get one until you change vour attitude

AQUARIUS

JAN 21-FEB 18
It's okay to be secretive, especially if what you are planning has the potential to upset those you live or work with

VIRGO AUG 24-SEPT 22

Don't waste time worrying that what you are planning may not be possible, just get on and do it and before you know it you'll be flying.

PISCES FFR 19-MARCH 20

Take the initiative in group activities and don't be afraid to tell others what they have been doing wrong.

This day in history

1955 – NORAD Tracks Santa for the first time in what will become an annual Christmas Eve tradition.

1968 - Apollo Program: The crew of Apollo 8 enters into orbit around the Moon, becoming the first humans to do so. They performed 10 lunar orbits and broadcast live TV pictures that became the famous Christmas Eve Broadcast, one of the most watched programs in history.

2003 – The Spanish police thwart an attempt by ETA to detonate 50 kg of explosives at 3:55 p.m. inside Madrid's busy Chamartín

METRO NEWS SERVICES





MORE GO. LESS DOUGH.



2009 PONTIAC G5 SE

Coupe or Sedan

INCLUDES • 155 HP 2.2L ECOTEC® VVT Engine • Air Conditioning

 Power Windows, Door Locks and Mirrors • 60/40 Split-Folding Rear Seatbacks • Driver and Front-passenger Frontal Air Bags • Head Curtain Side-impact Air Bags • Auxiliary Audio Input Jack



2009 PONTIAC G3 WAVE SE

INCLUDES • 106 HP 1.6L 4-cyl. DOHC Engine • Air Conditioning • Power Windows and Door Locks
• Power Sunroof • Remote Keyless Entry System • Cruise Control • OnStar® with 1-year of the Safe & Sound Plan^{#+} • Auxiliary Audio Input Jack



2009 PONTIAC VIBE

INCLUDES • 132 HP 1.8L 4-cyl. VVTi Engine • Auxiliary Audio Input Jack • Standard CD player with AM/
FM, Clock and Equalizer • 60/40 Split-Folding Rear Seatbacks • Driver and Front-passenger Frontal Air
Bags • Head Curtain Side-impact Air Bags • 4-wheel Disc Brakes with ABS and Brake Assist • OnStar®
with 1-year of the Safe & Sound Plan*



PLUS \$1,000[‡]
HOLIDAY BONUS



FREIGHT & PDI INCLUDED MONTHS†

PLUS \$1,000[±]
HOLIDAY BONUS



FOR SOME MONTHST PLUS \$1 000 \$





OLIDAY GIFT ALBERTAPONTIAC.COM







HOLIDAY BONUS

